FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 APRIL 1987

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DRA

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PNC Proceedings in Algiers Continue, Conclude

PPSF Reaches 4-Point Pact

LD242105 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Excerpts] The [PNC] national unity session resumed today in 10 committees. Our team reports directly from the Palace of Nations on this evening's proceedings:

[Reporter] Hello, dear listeners! The PNC's work has been going on at the committee level since last night. Some of these committees have completed their work, while others, including the Political Committee and the Committee of the Occupied Territories and Camps, have not. The report of the committees will be presented to the plenary session, which is expected to start at any moment.

Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, speaks to us on the progress of the meeting:

[Al-Wazir] The specialized committees formed by the PNC will continue their work today. The majority of these committees have completed their reports and their proceedings. The Political Committee, which is, of course, the most important one, and the Committee of the Occupied Territories, will probably complete their report tonight after this evening's session. This means we will then discuss the committees' reports at a plenary session. We feel that the general discussions will most probably end tomorrow evening or sometime Sunday morning. However, there are moves to end the PNC's proceedings by tomorrow evening. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] While waiting for the final resolution, the national radio team has learned that the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF], which attended the Palestinian national comprehensive dialogue but stayed away from the PNC's meeting, has reached a four-point agreement with the PLO. The points are: The front's commitment to work within the framework of the PLO and its institutions, as well as taking an active part in PLO bodies, such as the Central and Military Councils, but not the Executive Committee; the front will endeavor to work in accordance with national unity; the front pledges to coordinate with the PLO in all fields.

We have also learned that the problem of the Palestinian Liberation Front's representation in the council will be resolved very shortly on the basis of shared responsibility for the front's permanent secretariat as well as the PLO's Executive Committee.

Egypt Protests PNC Resolution

JN251257 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
12[illegible] GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] According to the Cairo paper *Akhbar al-Yawm*, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will present his views on the PLO in the speech he will make on Thursday, Labor Day.

The *Akhbar al-Yawm* commentator said Egypt wants Palestinian unity, but not at Cairo's expense. This was contained in an article on Egypt's efforts over the years on behalf of the Palestinians.

According to our correspondent in Algiers, Nabil Darwish, relations between Egypt and the PLO are going through a difficult phase:

[Begin recording] Has the Egyptian delegation withdrawn from the PNC? We cannot give a definitive answer to that question now. However, we spent a good deal of time this morning looking for the head of the Egyptian delegation, Ambassador Taha al-Farnawany, and the members of his delegation, but could not find any of them in the lobbies and lounges of Qasr al-Sunawbar.

We started this search when we heard from reliable sources here that the head of the Egyptian delegation handed PLO leader 'Arafat a letter last night denouncing a resolution adopted by the Political Committee late last night on relations with Egypt. The resolution states: The PLO Executive Committee will be entrusted with defining ties with Egypt in light of the stands and principles of all Arab summit resolutions and the resolutions of the successive PNC sessions, particularly the 16th session.

According to these sources, the Egyptian letter went so far as to describe the resolution as an act of aggression against the Egyptian people. Another source noted that the letter expressed fear that this resolution would be tantamount to severing ties with Egypt.

In any case, the Political Committee's document has not yet become a resolution. This draft will be presented to the PNC meeting this afternoon, which will discuss the Political Committee's report. A demand is expected to be presented during this meeting pertaining to the elimination of the reference to a particular PNC session, that is, the 16th PNC session resolution, which makes the restoration of relations with Egypt contingent on Cairo's abandonment of Camp David.

In any event, the Egyptian letter noted that Egypt has rejected Arab summit and PNC session resolutions on this issue in the past. [end recording]

Support for Iraq Urged

JN250735 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1815 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The Palestinian revolution factions represented in the PNC have called for an end to Iran's aggression against Iraq, an aggression that threatens the safety of Arab lands. Official PNC Spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman told an INA correspondent that the Iranian aggression against Iraq imperils the Gulf region and the entire Arab nation. He noted that the PNC, while appealing for an end to Iran's aggression, voices full support for Iraq on the principle of cooperation in defending Arab lands. He also said Iraq is defending the eastern flank of the Arab nation.

Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman highlighted the Palestinian revolution's condemnation of U.S.-Zionist weapons supplies to Iran, which were revealed during investigations into the recent arms cooperation scandal. He said this scandal proves that imperialism and Zionism are working to prolong the war, waste the Arab nation's energy, and prevent Iraq from playing its pan-Arab role in liberating occupied Arab territories. He explained that the PNC supports the five principles announced by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to resolve the dispute with Iran.

He urged all Arab countries to offer more support to Iraq to end the war and devote time to supporting the Palestinian revolution to liberate Arab territories.

PNC Session Concludes

JN260625 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0500 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Nabil Darwish report from Algiers]

[Text] The 18th PNC session ended early today amid enthusiastic cheers and jubilation in the halls of Al-Sanawbar Palace. Palestinian leaders were carried shoulder high, and one of them, [DFLP Secretary General] Nayif Hawatimah, was cheering with other PNC members for Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat.

This Palestinian joy came after the PNC almost stumbled at the last minute. This followed the receipt of Egypt's message yesterday morning, which described the Political Committee's decision on relations with Egypt as an attack on Egypt and its people. The committee's decision states that the basis for future relations with Egypt should be the PNC and Arab summit resolutions, particularly those of the 16th PNC session, which noted that relations with Egypt should be conditional on Cairo's departure from Camp David.

From the start, Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat tried to cancel the stipulation of the 16th PNC session. However, the insistence of the DFLP, and the PFLP in particular, as well as the harsh criticism in Egypt's message, which was seen as interference in internal Palestinian affairs, foiled 'Arafat's efforts. Until the very last moment, the PFLP was threatening to withdraw if the resolution were not adopted in its entirety.

When the political resolutions were passed, the conferees expressed their joy with cheers and chants. The Palestinian leaders then proceeded to the conference hall to agree on the members of the new PLO Executive Committee.

There is nothing new as far as the Executive Committee is concerned. The DFLP retains its seat in the person of Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, and the PFLP retains its seat in the person of Abu 'Ali Mustafa. The new development is the accession to the Executive Committee of Sulayman Najjab, representing the Palestinian Communist Party, and the poet Mahmud Darwish, for the independents.

Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] announced an accord on unifying the Palestine Liberation Front [PLF]. The agreement provides for the continued membership of Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] on the PLO Executive Committee for 3 months, with Tal'at Ya'qub [leader of the other wing of the PLF] serving as secretary general. A conference to unite the PLF will be held in the 3-month period.

Resolutions, Soviet Role Viewed

JN260900 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
26 Apr 87 pp 1, 3

[By Lamis K. Andoni in Algiers]

[Text] The Palestine National Council (PNC) ended its 18th session here on Saturday after averting what could have been a disasterous end for the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) drive for reconciliation and reunification.

Resolutions read out at the closing session spelled out the future policies of the PLO, including relations with Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Lebanon, and reemphasised the movement's endorsement of an international conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices with the participation of all parties involved and the PLO on an equal footing with all other parties.

One of the resolutions said the PLO "continued to reject (U.N. Security Council) Resolution 242 on its own as the basis" for a settlement to the Palestinian problem and that all pertinent United Nations resolutions should govern the conference.

On relations with Jordan, one of the resolutions said the PLO was determined to maintain "the unique character" of Palestinian-Jordanian ties. It said the PLO supported the idea of confederal ties with Jordan but only after the creation of an independent Palestinian state. The resolution said ties with Jordan would be governed by the 1974 Rabat summit resolution as well as earlier PNC resolutions.

On Syria, a resolution said the PLO was determined to pursue efforts to better relations between the PLO leadership and the Syrian government.

On Lebanon, the PNC said the Palestinians living in refugee camps there were entitled to "defend themselves against attacks" and called for reorganised relations with the various Lebanese factions with special emphasis on "nationalist and progressive movements."

The PNC deplored the continued Iran-Iraq war and condemned Iran's continued occupation ofparts of Iraqi territory. It called for a negotiated solution to the conflict.

Finally, on Egypt, the PNC adopted a resolution which was the focus of the last-minute threat to the successful conclusion of the council. The resolution said the PLO's relations with Egypt be governed by decisions adopted by the 16th session of the PNC and Arab summit resolutions. It endorsed contacts between the PLO and "nationalist and progressive forces" in Egypt and the Egyptian masses.

The resolution was the focus of an escalation of a dispute between PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and hardline PLO factional leaders George Habash of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Nayif Hawatimah of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

The dispute, which was supposed to have been settled with the endorsement of the resolution by the PNC Political Committee at dawn Saturday before presentation to the PNC later in the day, was sparked by a demand by Mr. 'Arafat that it be amended before final endorsement.

Informed sources said the sought-for amendments meant the removal of the stipulation that relations with Egypt be governed under resolutions adopted by the 16th session of the PNC as well as Arab summit resolutions. These resolutions called for isolation of Egypt as long as Cairo followed the 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel and said relations with Egypt be contingent on the Cairo government distancing itself from the treaty.

Another amendment sought by Mr. 'Arafat was a tribute to the Egyptian army and people for their struggle against Israel. This amendment was incorporated into the final resolution.

Earlier, the PFLP and DFLP threatened to quit the PNC if the sought-for amendments were incorporated.

Informed souces said it was after intense Algerian and Soviet mediation that the compromise was reached. Algerian party leader Mohamad Cherif Messaadia held a closed meeting with Mr. 'Arafat late Saturday evening. The meeting was followed by another attended by the Soviet ambassador to Algeria.

The compromise saved the council session, described as the "PLO reunification session" after years of bitter feuds and in-fighting, from total failure.

The PNC session also endorsed a series of organisational reforms which heralded strict limitations over the powers of the PLO chairman.

The council session was expected to conclude here on Saturday but the closing session was delayed because of the dispute over Egypt which rose to the surface after Mr. 'Arafat insisted on having a free hand in maintaining relations with Cairo, contrary to an earlier agreement with the PFLP and DFLP.

Mr. 'Arafat's new stand was the result of a message he received earlier in the day from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in protest against the resolution that was endorsed by the PNC on Saturday. The resolution, which was thrashed out after hours of lengthy deliberations of the political committee of the PNC, stipulated that the issue of relations with Egypt would be left to the new Executive Committee of the PLO which was expected to be named at the concluding session of the council.

The resolution was seen as a compromise formula between the hardline stands of George Habash of the PFLP and Nayif Hawatimah of the DFLP and Mr 'Arafat's insistence that the door be kept open for relations with Egypt. While the PLO chairman hoped that it would not provoke a harsh Egyptian reaction. Dr. Habash and Mr. Hawatimah appeared to be satisfied that the new Executive Committee would be able to control the actions of Mr 'Arafat.

The simmering dispute over Egypt was a key issue ever since the PNC opened its 18th session here on Monday, and it appeared early Saturday that the compromise formula had managed to settle the row. Journalists were awaiting the final communique of the PNC session Saturday evening, but the whole situation changed when Mr. 'Arafat, in a meeting of the political committee, asked for the amendments to the compromise resolution.

The main factor that brought about a shift in Mr. 'Arafat's stand from early Saturday was Mr. Mubarak's message, which, according to sources, indicated that Egypt was "on the verge of closing down PLO offices in its territory."

An Egyptian delegation which was attending the PNC session as observers left Algiers on Saturday, reports said. An Egyptian Foreign Ministry official was quoted as saying in Cairo that the delegation was called back in protest against what it described as "anti-Egyptian debate" going on in the PNC.

Informed sources said Mr. Mubarak's message to Mr. 'Arafat also accused the PLO of "trying to drive a wedge between the Egyptian government and its people." Apparently, the stand by the hardline factions here that the PLO could continue contacts with "progressive and nationalist forces in Egypt and the Egyptian masses" sparked this particular reference in the message.

Earlier, other sources said Mr. 'Arafat had suggested the issue of relations with Egypt be put to an open vote at the PNC session, but the hardline factions as well as some Fatah leaders opposed such a move.

Observers noted that Mr. 'Arafat could not turn down Algerian requests to ensure the unity of the PLO, because rejecting Algerian mediation would mean that the PLO chairman was shouldering the sole responsibility for the failure of the council session.

This would also discredit Mr. 'Arafat in Soviet eyes, since Moscow was one of the driving forces behind the PNC's "reunification session," the observers said.

At the same time, the PFLP and DFLP could also not afford to be seen as having caused the PNC failure since both factions enjoy wide Soviet support.

Mr. 'Arafat was expected to travel to Moscow immediately after the conclusion of the PNC.

Peace Conference Clause Changed

JN260714 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0600 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] In its final session the PNC amended some phrases in the clause on the international peace conference. It originally read: The PNC reaffirms its rejection of Security Council Resolution 242, and calls for the convening of an international conference under UN auspices and on the basis of international resolutions on the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The five permanent members of the Security Council are to participate, as are the parties concerned, including the PLO, on an equal footing with the others and on an independent basis.

These last words, on an independent basis, have been omitted from the resolution's final text. Perhaps this is another door left open by the Palestinians so their delegation can take part in the conference within another Arab delegation, but on an equal footing in accordance with the provisions of the resolution.

'Arafat Addresses Session

LD262114 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, at the PNC final session in Algiers on 26 April — recorded]

[Text] Beloved brothers: What brother Yasir ['Abd Rabbuh] has said has touched our hearts and moved us. I do not have much to add to what he said, but, with your permission, I say to my brothers in Algeria, the land of the 1.5 million martyrs: Thank you, thank you, thank you. [applause]

Then I tell our people, all our people, our revolutionaries, all our revolutionaries, our fighters, all our fighters, those people standing fast inside our occupied territory, and those whose bodies have been (?laid to rest) in our camps — I tell them: The pledge is the same pledge, and the oath is the same, together on to Palestine, to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem. [applause]

Beloved brothers, we know that the task is hard and difficult, particularly during these difficult Arab times. As you can see, no sooner had our council begun its meetings than the U.S. arrows, directly, and the Americanized arrows, directly and indirectly, and the Zionist arrows, directly, and the Zionized arrows, directly and indirectly, started to appear. But I tell them all: The wind cannot move a mountain. [applause and cheers] Yes, the wind cannot move a mountain. I say this so those near and far can hear, so they will understand that the Palestinian number. [changes thought] the decision to eliminate it from the Middle East map was made in 1982 as Sharon and Alexander Haig met and drew up a plan for overruning southern Lebanon and besieging Beirut, thinking that they could finish off the Palestinian figure.

We and our Lebanese allies have fought; when Alexander Haig and Sharon drew up their plan, and received the green light from President Reagan and Begin, they belived that they could eradicate the Palestinian revolution.

As Alexander Haig stated in his memoirs — I would like to remind you of what he said. He said, with all calmness and simplicity, that we need 2 or 3 days; when the 2 or 3 days lapsed, I gave them 5 days to put an end to this Palestinian revolution. They thought that they could put an end to the Palestinian revolution in 5 days.

But what happened, brothers? The longest Arab-Israeli war took place: 88 days against the Palestinian revolution. Mohamed Cherif came to us bringing support, bringing support to me. He came to us, there. They thought that they could put and end to the Palestinian revolution — it was the longest Arab-Israeli war, for it lasted 88 days. Not only that, my brothers, [words indistinct] 77 days. But not only that, my brothers, by this revolution these Palestinian fighters, these Lebanese fighters of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces, changed and forced the Israeli enemy to change its military strategy. The Israeli military strategy used to rely on the theory of swiftly striking inside the enemy's territory, and then naming your conditions. What happened, brothers? They were unable to strike swiftly; they were unable to get out of the quagmire and the beehive in Lebanon.

Not only this, have you heard — I would like to remind you: Eitan claimed to be the hero of the 6-day war; Sharon claimed to be the hero of deversoir [Egypt], and claim to be the hero of the occupation of Jerusalem — let us take this war waged against the Palestinian revolution forces and against the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces, and tell me whether any general among Israel's generals was able to claim to be a hero. Why were Israel's general's unable to claim to be heroes? Because this defeat is their only defeat. These people were defeated in the face of the strength of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement. [applause]

Therefore, brothers, this is the important thing: They admitted that we, alongside our Lebanese brothers, have been engaged in the longest and most successful war of attrition, a war of attrition that is continuing today. Anything that threatens [words indistinct] threatens us, Israel sends its aircraft in less than 24 hours to launch four air raids, and the Israeli Navy continuously shells our camps in southern Lebanon, namely in Sidon, 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah [words indistinct].

I am saying this so that everybody understands: When the Katyusha was heard once again in southern Lebanon, what does this mean, brothers? I would like to remind you that the Peace for Galilee war was supposed to mean the end of the Palestinian figure, to put an end to the difficult number in the equation of the Middle East. This is what they thought. They wanted to protect the Galilee, to safeguard the northern colonies. Now, when the Katyusha is heard in southern Lebanon and is being aimed against our brothers — thousands of our brothers who are under siege and who had to eat cats and dogs, who were forced to eat human meat in order not to raise the white flag, not to raise the white flag.

I am telling you, brothers, I am telling you, I am telling those who are near and those who are far away: This Palestinian number is the difficult, the essential number in the Middle East equation. There is no solution, no peace, no stability, no solutions in this region by overlooking the Palestinian number, by overlooking the Palestinian reality — the Palestinian reality. Brothers, there is no solution without it. Brothers, I would like to say that the most difficult and essential number in the Middle East region is the Palestinian figure.

Therefore, brothers, despite all this, we are saying that we are not warmongers; we are calling for a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace — just, lasting, and comprehensive. This takes into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to their land, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on its national Palestinian soil, with Jerusalem as its capital — Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Jerusalem. [Words indistinct]

After having ended the proceedings of our PNC, I am saying these words so that some people will understand, for some people will try to harm this triumph, the triumph of the Palestinian unity. As my brother Nasir said, this triumph is a present for our people inside our occupied land; it is a present for our camps, for our destitute people, for our people everywhere, both inside and outside the occupied land. I am saying this, brothers, to all fighters and honest Arab people, to all free and honest people. I am saying that this revolution, as Nasir said, is here to stay. I am saying that this revolution was created to remain, and to triumph — to triumph, to triumph, to triumph

Manhood dictates that we line up our bodies so that all our comrades can cross. Where should they cross to, brothers? To Palestine. To Jerusalem. [passage indistinct]

Therefore, brothers, there must be [words indistinct], there must be Arab unity, Arab solidarity.

I am saying, my brother Mohamed Cherif, and brother struggler President Chadli Bendjedid, that this is the message of their brothers and beloved Palestinians: that they will fly this flag to quench the thirst and satisfy these Arab lips, because we have been living [words indistinct] as an Arab nation during difficult times — to be or not to be. However, we are determined, we are determined to be.

I will conclude by saying to you all: Yes, we are determined to be, to be side by side with all free and honorable people in our Arab homeland. I am saying free and honorable people of our Arab nation, not those who adopted Zionism and bragging, nor those who are feigning skillfulness — the free and honorable of the Arab nation. I am telling them that this Arab nation was created to stay, and that this Arab land will continue to speak Arabic; our forebearers bones have been buried in this land, and our children's bones will be buried there. This land, including Jerusalem, headed by Jerusalem, will remain Arab, Arab, Arab. [Words indistinct]

Brothers, yes, it is a difficult time. At the same time, I tell all free and honorable people in the world — in Asia, Africa, African Frontline States, Namibia and South Africa — I tell them: Brother, with our small capabilities, we are with you, together against Zionism, against the Pretoria regime which is the twin of the racist regime in Tel Aviv. They are two faces of the same coin; this coin is imperialism, Zionism, colonialism, and apartheid. Therefore I tell them that we are with them, and with all free and struggling people from El Salvador to the last spot on earth — in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

This, brothers, the pledge of men to men, and the pledge of free men to free men. In this [words indistinct] and in these difficult times we are going through, I tell those steadfast people one thing: We have a date with them, we are returning to Jerusalem. There is a Palestinian child and a Palestinian [words indistinct] who will go on walking, walking despite the fact that they are bleeding now, to raise the Palestinian flag over the walls of Jerusalem, over the churches of Jerusalam, and over the Jerusalem mosques.

This is a pledge, a pledge that this revolution will continue. This revolution's flag is flying. We will make sacrifices after sacrifices; and processions after processions of martyrs, brothers. Processions and groups. My brothers, side by side, together no one will separate us and no one will be able to come between us. We are the will of this Arab nation, because we are now, as Algeria was [words indistinct] the Algerian revolution, the will of the Arab nation when this land we are standing, on, occupied by colonialism, burned with fire and destruction. We are now the will of the Arab nation in our occupied land, and fire and destruction will fall on the occupiers until we regain Palestine, until the Palestinian flag is raised and we have built a Palestinian state on these Palestinian territories, on Palestinian national soil. Together, side by side, until victory.

Lists Committee Members

LD270017 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Resolutions on PNC Central Council and Executive Committee Membership read by Yasir 'Arafat at the PNC Final session in Algiers on 26 April — recorded]

[Text] With the brothers' permission, after continuous consultations with the various brothers and sisters of the PNC, this recommendation was presented to the PNC. Because of the shortage of time, this recommendation will be put to the vote — about the members of the Central Council who will be directly elected by this respected PNC.

Brother chairman, allow me to read the list. Before I start, some brothers will not be mentioned because they will be members of the Central Council by virtue of being chairman of PNC committees. This is in accordance with the regulations and with the agreement with my brother, the chairman of the Palestinian legislative body. The committees of the PNC, the permanent committees — there are four permanent committees. Therefore, I will only mention the other brothers:

Brother Shafiq al-Hut;
Brother Dr Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani;
Brother Ishaq al-Khatib;
Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Hajj Ahmad;
Brother Dr As'ad 'Abd al-Rahman;
Brother Fayiq Warrad;
Brother Hasib al-Sabbagh;
Brother ('Abd al-Latif Abu 'Ijlah);
Brother 'Abd al-Jawwad Salih;
Brother Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-Hurani;
Brother Yasir 'Amr;
Brother Dr Hanna Nasir;
Brother Isma'il Muhammad Isma'il;
Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz Saqr;
Brother Muhammad Yasir 'Aql;
Brother Da'ud al-Zir;
Brother 'Abd al-Latif Uthman;
Brother Dr Ibrahim Abu Lughd;
Brother Hani Qaddumi;
Brother Father Ibrahim 'Ayyad;
Brother Majdi Abu Ramadan;
Brother Dr Rif'at 'Awdah;

Sister Samirah Abu Ghazalah;
Brother 'Isam 'Abd al-Hadi;
Brother Dr 'Abd al-Majid al-Tayih;
Brother Dr 'Abdullah Abu 'Azzah.
I ask the brothers to agree, by voting on the list as a whole, in order to save time. Naturally, we reached these names after numerous consultations. I hope that we will appreciate the great efforts exerted to compile this list. This is why we put it as a whole to the vote, bearing in mind that there are five members, as agreed, who will be elected by the Executive Committee and the leadership of the PNC.

Those for the list?

Those against the list?

Therefore the brothers have become elected members of the Palestinian Central Council. We congratulate them, and we hope that they will carry this trust on behalf of their brothers and the rest of the PNC members.

As for the second point: Mr Chairman, before the second point, there is a news item that I would like to present to my brothers in the PNC. But before that, I would like to submit my thanks to the brothers representing the Algerian Political Bureau and leadership who shared with us the planning of this good event, which is a declaration of reuniting the Palestinian Liberation Front.

It was agreed that Brother Tal'at Ya'qub should continue in his work at the Front as secretary general.

It was also agreed that Brother Muhammad 'Abbas should be a member of the executive committee for a temporary period during which both sides are committed to holding a unifying conference at which all the other unification matters will be settled. The Palestinian leadership as a whole will assist and encourage the holding of the this unifying conference during this agreed period. God willing, we will continue together, and we will also be assisted by our brothers in Algeria, in holding this unifying conference, as one of our squads.

Also, the independent brothers, as a first party, and the secretaries of the squads, as a second party, agreed on this list as a leadership of the Palestinian people during the coming stage. As I said, the Executive Committee has become: Yasir 'Arafat; Faruq Qaddumi; Mahmud 'Abbas; Jamal al-Sawrani; Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh; 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad; Mustafa al-Zibri; 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya; Bishop Iliya al-Khuri; Muhammad Milhim; Sulayman Najjab; Muhammad 'Abbas; Mahmud Darwish; 'Abdullah Hurani; and Brother Jawid al-Ghusayn remains as he was, chairman of the Palestinian National Fund.

We submit the draft Executive Committee to the vote. Who agrees? Who Opposes? [applause] The resolution is passed with the approval of everyone, and the opposition of Brother Abu 'Ammar. [as heard]

One thing please, this naturally includes the chairman of the national fund, Jawid, this vote, or you want another vote? Does the vote include the chairman of the National Fund?

[Unidentified speaker] Brother Abu Ammar's remark is in order. There should be an independent vote on the chairman of the National Fund. Brother Jawid al-Ghusayn is a candidate for the chairmanship of the Palestinian National Fund. Who agrees? Who Opposes? Unanimously agreed. Only one opposed. [as heard]

'Final Statement' Issued

LD262233 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 26 Apr 87

["Final statement" of 18th session of the Palestine National Council held in Algiers 20-26 April; read by Nabil Amr, rapporteur — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

At the most critical stage of the national liberation struggle of our Palestinian people, and at the apex of the confrontation with the imperialist, Zionist, and lackey forces whose efforts and tools have been united in an attempt to realize the objective of liquidating the national identity of our Palestinian people and confiscating their fixed national rights and striking at the PLO — the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; at a time when this heated confrontation has taken an escalated, bloody path in the arenas of our national struggle in the occupied homeland and in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, coupled with political and provocative, openly hostile campaigns led by U.S. imperialism and its tool — Zionism — and its lackeys at all levels; out of our realization of the magnitude of the fateful challenges facing our people, revolution, and Arab nation; depending on the great wall of steadfastness that has been embodied by our heroic masses in the occupied homeland and in our Palestinian camps in Lebanon and everywhere, and on whose strong and stubborn rocks fundamental links of the major conspiracy against our people and revolution as well as our national issue and Arab nation were smashed — under these circumstances, the Palestine National Council held its 18th session in the Algerian capital from 20 to 27 April [as heard] at a fraternal initiative by the struggling President Chadli Bendjedid [applause], and under the warm, fraternal patronage of the people and government of fraternal Algeria.

The convening of the 18th session was preceded by a comprehensive national dialogue on which all Palestinian national detachments, organizations, and personalities participated. An atmosphere of mutual concern for the consolidation and strengthening of the national unity, and for strengthening its foundations, prevailed during this dialogue. The dialogue enjoyed sincere, positive backing by the brothers and friends, a matter that led to the crystallization of a national agreement that constituted a firm ground for convening the 18th session — the session of national unity and the steadfastness of the camps and the struggle of the occupied territories. Struggling President Chadli Bendjedid patronized the opening ceremony of this session; he was accompanied by a number of brother Algerian leaders. Also particpating in the ceremony were a number of high-level delegations representing all the fraternal and friendly states, parties, regional and international organizations, a representation that expressed the position the PLO occupies and the depth of the Arab and international interaction with the Palestinian issue and our people's glorious struggle for the realization of their national rights, including their right to return to self-determination, and the right to establish an independent Palestinian state on its national soil.

The work of the 18th session was conducted in a genuine unity-seeking atmosphere and with a deep feeling of national responsibility, and a comprehensive and responsible discussion of all the issues and problems submitted to the Palestinian people, wherever these people may be, and which concerns the national issue and national struggle of these people. The council's 10 committees studied and analysed these problems, and searched for the best solutions for these problems. At the end of their meetings, they submitted a resume of the resolutions of this session, which encompassed everything relating to the Palestinian position inside and outside the occupied homeland with its political, social, cultural, and other dimensions.

The National Council, through its continuous meetings, arrived at a number of political resolutions that define the bases of the PLO's political posture within its three frameworks — national, pan-Arab, and international. The resolutions of the 18th session reaffirmed the importance of consolidating and strengthening the Palestinian national unity, which is being embodied by our great people inside the occupied territories in its continuous battle against the Zionist enemy and its projects, and its hated persecution, annexation, and settlement policies; it was also greatly embodied by our Palestinian masses in the camps who by virtue of their unity, great steadfastness, and defense gave the most glorious of examples of struggle in our modern time. The resolutions also stressed the necessity of making available all the necessary capabilities for the consolidation of the steadfastness of our masses in the occupied homeland, proceeding from a firm fact: that this great steadfastness, stemming from the spirit of the comprehensive popular commitment to the firm national rights of our Palestinian people and to the PLO — the sole representative of the Palestinian people and the leader of its national struggle, embodies one of the most important and impregnable, firm national fortresses from which we derive a huge and growing momentum for our national struggle at all levels. The resolutions also stressed the adherence to the independent national decision as a base for national, principled, and permanent unanimity, constituting one of the most important constants of the national edifice embodied by the PLO in all its cadres and establishments.

At a time when the National Council stressed our people's legitimate right to exercise the armed struggle in confronting the hated Zionist, racist occupation of the Palestinian homeland, the National Council would like to reaffirm the Palestinian people's desire to realize a just and permanent peace that depends on its firm national and unnegotiable rights, including the right to return, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on its the national soil, within the framework of an effective international conference in which the permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the concerned parties, including the PLO, will participate on equal footing with the other parties.

The National Council paused to look at the Arab reality in which our Arab nation is living, and which very regrettably is characterized by many phenomena of differences, disunity, and dispute that squander the nation's potentials and rocks the Arab position among the living nations and peoples in our world, and which cast a negative shadow on the issues of our Arab nation. Right in the heart of these is the question of Palestine. The Council decided to work to realize an Arab solidarity whose framework will encompass all the pan-Arab efforts and capabilities to realize the aspirations and sublime pan-Arab aims of the masses of our Arab nation.

The Council paused to look into the Iraq-Iran war whose continuation and escalation constitute a direct and serious threat to the pan-Arab security, and a noticeable disturbance of the balance of power at the level of the Arab-Zionist struggle, a matter that makes it inevitable that all Arab and international efforts should be exerted to halt this war and to limit its destructive effects at all levels. The national council records for fraternal Iraq its sincere response to all peace efforts — the response that is coupled with Iraq's glorious defenseof the Arab, Iraqi soil and the eastern gate of the Arab homeland.

The National Council reached precise definitions of Palestinian-Arab relations in their bilateral and general framework, guided in this by the national criteria contained in the PNC resolutions in its successive sessions, and in those of Arab summits as a basis for relations with all Arab brothers — the resolutions that represent pan-Arab commitments to the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and also represent Arab commitments at their highest official level to the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

The Council paid special attention to the situation in the Lebanese arena, stressing the cohesion between the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and the joint struggles that stem from this, brought together by pan-Arab commitment to Palestine and its liberation, and to Lebanon's unity, Arabism, and liberating its territory from occupation.

The council reaffirmed its pride in the special relations between the brotherly Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and highly assessed the great sacrifices made by Egypt and its great people in defending the Arab nation and the Palestinian people's rights, and stressed the importance of Egypt returning to its national position in the Arab arena.

At the international level, the council noted the important, positive signs that indicate that the Palestinians have been firmly established, and the growing, international support and backing for them and the PLO, support and backing that is epitomized by the principal international organizations, starting with the United Nations, the nonaligned conferences, the Islamic Conference Organization, and the OAU, to all the institutions and bodies that stem from them.

The National Council also assessed highly the stands adopted by the majority of world countries, stands that are continually developing to the benefit of our people and issue, especially at the European level. The National Council also assessed highly the solid stands of socialist countries led by the friendly Soviet Union, and also that of the PRC.

At the organizational level, the National Council issued a host of administrative, financial, military, social, and media-related resolutions. It also endorsed the Palestine National Fund report. The National Council thanked the Arab countries that are fulfilling their financial commitments regularly, led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Iraq, and to the Arab countries hosting the PLO institutions, especially sisterly Tunisia whose loyal sons' blood has been mixed with that of their Palestinian brothers as a result of the criminal Zionist act on Hamman al-Shatt. The National Council addressed a greeting of esteem to Algeria — President, Government, and people — [applause]; for their pan-Arab and principled stands of supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people led by the PLO. The Council assessed highly the efforts made by struggler President Chadli Bendjedid to ensure the success of the dialogue and unity [applause], which was crowned by the hosting of the 18th PNC session in Algeria, and among its generous people. The Council also assessed highly the positive efforts made by brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in this context, and the sincere efforts made by all brothers and friends, especially the Soviet efforts.

On the basis of the spirit of noble national unity and the firm commitment to the aims of our national struggle, the council made a pledge to the masses of our Palestinian people, the masses of our Arab nation, and free and honorable people in the world, in the name of martyrs and their noble blood, in the name of all that is held sacred, and in the name of the homeland and the people — that the flag of struggle will remain flying despite all challenges, and the march will move toward its objectives no matter how many sacrifices there may be until our people attain all their national rights, and the flag of Palestine flies over the land of Palestine and Jerusalem.

Revolution until victory.

Resolutions Issued

JN270700 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 Apr 87

["Text" of the 18th PNC Political Committee resolutions issued in Algiers on 26 April — read by announcer]

[Text] Proceeding from the Palestinian national charter and in harmony with the PNC resolutions, we emphasize the following principles as a basis for the Palestinian national action within the framework of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people:

I. On the Palestinian level [subhead]

1. Adhering to the Palestinian Arab people's national inalienable rights to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of an independent state on the Palestinian national soil whose capital is Jerusalem. Commitment to the PLO's political program which is aimed at attaining these rights. Adhering to the PLO as a sole legitimate representative for our people and rejecting deputization, procuration, and sharing of participation in Palestinian representation. Rejecting and resisting any alternatives to the PLO.

3. [as heard] Adhering to the PLO's independence and rejecting trusteeship, containment, annexation, and interference in its internal affairs.

4. Continuing struggle in all its armed, popular, and political forms for the sake of attaining our national objectives, liberating the Palestinian and Arab lands from the Israeli occupation, and confronting the hostile schemes of the imperialist-Zionist alliance in our region, particularly the strategic U.S.-Israeli alliance, as a genuine expression of our people's national liberation movement, which antagonizes imperialism, colonialism, and Zionism.

5. Continued rejection of the Security Council Resolution 242, which is not considered a good basis for a settlement of the Palestine question because it deals with it as if it were an issue of refugees and ignores the Palestinian people's national inalienable rights.

6. Rejecting and resisting all solutions and plans aimed at liquidating our Palestine question, including the Camp David accords, Reagan's autonomy plan, and the interplay of roles [al-taqasum al-wazifi] in all its forms.

7. Adhering to the Arab summits resolutions on the Palestine question, particularly the Rabat 1974 summit, and considering the Arab peace plan approved by the Fes 1982 summit and confirmed by the extraordinary Casablanca summit as a framework for Arab action on the international level to achieve a solution to the Palestine question and to regain the occupied Arab territories.

8. Taking into consideration UN Resolutions 35, 38, 48/41 regarding the convocation of an international conference for peace in the Middle East, and UN resolutions on the Palestine question, the PNC supports the convocation of an international conference within the framework of the United Nations and under its auspices to be attended by the permanent member states of the UN Security Council and the parties to the conflict in the region, including the PLO, on equal footing with the other parties. The PNC stresses that the international conference should have full powers. The PNC also expresses support for the proposal to form a preparatory committee, and calls for swift action to form and convene this committee. In this regard, the PNC expresses appreciation for the fifth ICO summit conference in Kuwait, the eighth Nonaligned conference in Harare and the coordination committee stemming from it, and the OAU summit in Addis Ababa, which expressed support for the convocation of the international conference, the preparatory committee, and for the efforts to convene this conference.

9. Enhancing the unity of all the national institutions and forces inside the occupied homeland under the PLO, promoting their joint struggle action against the Zionist enemy, the Zionist iron-fist policy, the autonomy plan, the interplay of roles, normalization, the so-called development plan, and the attempts to create alternatives to the PLO, including the establishment of municipal councils, and supporting the steadfastness of our people who are represented by their national forces and institutions.

10. Reinforcing the unity of action regarding the reorganizing the situation in our camps in Lebanon, the defending of these

camps, entrenching the unity of our people in them under the PLO, adhering to our people's rights in Lebanon regarding their residence, work, movement, and the freedom of political and social action, rejecting the attempts to expel and disarm our people, stressing our people's right to struggle against the Zionist enemy, to protect themselves, and to defend their camps in accordance with the Cairo agreement and its annexes, which organize relations between the PLO and the Lebanese Republic, and contributing along with our Lebanese brothers and their nationalist forces to resisting the Israeli occupation in Lebanon.

11. Protecting our people, taking care of their affairs wherever they reside, adhering to their rights of residence, mobility, work, education, health, and security in accordance with the Arab League resolutions and the declaration on human rights, guaranteeing the freedom of political action in embodiment of Arab brotherhood ties and pan-Arab affiliation, and bolstering their cohesion with their Arab brothers.

II. On the Arab Level [subhead]

1. Bolstering Arab solidarity on the basis of the Arab summit resolutions and adhering to the charters of the joint Arab action and the Collective Arab Defense Pact to mobilize potential to liberate the occupied Arab territories and to confront the Zionist aggression and the U.S. schemes to impose control over the Arab nation.

2. Consolidating the relations of alliance with the Arab liberation movement forces on the basis of action to attain the objectives of the joint pan-Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism and to reorganize the Arab front, which participates in the Palestinian revolution to enable it to perform its pan-Arab role of supporting and protecting the revolution.

3. Supporting the struggle of the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces against the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and for the sake of Lebanon's unity, Arab affiliation, independence, and for enhancing the Palestinian-Lebanese militant struggle.

Special Resolution [Subhead]

The PNC expresses pride and appreciation for the fraternal Lebanese people, emphasizes the importance of pursuing the alliance with the heroic Lebanese National Movement under brother Walid Junblatt and the other nationalist and Islamic leaders and forces with which we have fought and continue to fight to liberate Lebanese territory from the Zionist occupation, and stresses to them that the Palestinian revolution will remain a support for their program and for the continuation of the joint confrontation in the same militant trench against the Israeli aggression and occupation, and for Lebanon's unity, Arab affiliation, and independence.

4. Correcting and establishing relations between the PLO and Syria on the basis of the struggle objectives hostile to imperialism and Zionism, and in accordance with Arab summit resolutions, particularly the Rabat and Fes summit resolutions, and on the basis of equality and mutual respect leading to militant Palestinian- Syrian relations as well as close Arab relations.

5. The Iraq-Iran war. Working to halt the Iraq-Iran war, because it is a destructive war to the two neighboringMuslim people from which only imperialism and Zionism benefit. This war seeks to exhaust Arab efforts and resources from the principal arena of confrontation of the Zionist aggression, which is backed by U.S. imperialism against the Arab nation and the Islamic countries. While valuing Iraq's peace initiatives seeking to halt this war, establish relations of good neighborliness between the two countries based on total respect for the sovereignty of each of them, on the noninterference by either side in the domestic affairs of the other, and with respect to their political and social potentialities, the PNC stands to fraternal Iraq's side in defending its land and any Arab land that is the target of foreign aggression and invasion. The PNC also condemns Iran's occupation of Iraqi territory and the U.S.-Israeli collusion for perpetuating this war through the U.S. and Israeli arms deals to Iran.

6. Jordan. Reaffirming the special and distinctive relations that link the fraternal Palestinian and Jordanian people and working to develop these relations in a manner that will be in line with the pan-Arab interests of the two people and those of our Arab nation, and consolidating their joint struggle for the enhancement of Jordan's independence and against the Zionist designs of expansion at the expense of its territory, and for the attainment of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, the establishment of the independent Palestinian state, and the abidance by the PNC resolutions pertaining to the relationship with Jordan on the basis that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative inside and outside the occupied territories, as was affirmed by the 1974 Fes summit resolution. Reaffirming that any future relationship with Jordan should be based on confederal bases between two independent states; and stressing adherence to the bases that were approved by the 15th PNC session and the Baghdad summit resolutions concerning bolstering steadfastness, including the Palestinian-Jordanian Joint Committee.

7. Egypt. While stressing the historic role of Egypt and its great people within the framework of the Arab struggle against the Zionist enemy, the sacrifices of the fraternal Egyptian people and its heroic army in defense of the Palestinian people and their national rights, Egypt's struggle to achieve Arab unity and liberation from colonialism and Zionism, Egypt's struggle to liberate the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories in all circles and arenas, and while also appreciating Egypt's pan-Arab and international position and the importance of Egypt's return [to the Arab fold] and its assumption of its natural role in the Arab arena, the PNC has entrusted the PLO Executive Committee with the task of defining the bases for Palestinian-Egyptian relations in accordance with the successive PNC resolutions, especially those of the 16th session, which contain certain positions and principles of Palestinian struggle, foremost of which are the right to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative, as well as in light of the Arab summit conferences' resolutions to achieve the Palestinian people's goals and inalienable national rights, which have been stressed by these Arab resolutions in the service of the Palestinian and Arab struggle against the Zionist enemy and its supporters.

III. On the International Level [subhead]

1. Bolstering relations of alliance with the world liberation movements.

2. Cooperating closely with the Islamic, African, and Nonaligned countries, and activating PLO's action in these countries to promote relations with them and gain further support for the Palestinian struggle.

3. Strengthening militant relations of alliance with the socialist bloc countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union, as well as with the PRC.

4. Supporting peoples struggling against imperialism and racism for the sake of their national liberation, especially in southern and southwest Africa, Central America, and Latin America, condemning the aggressive alliance between the racist regimes in Tel Aviv and South Africa against the Arab nation and the African peoples, strongly supporting the African frontline countries in their struggle against the racist Pretorian regime, and strongly supporting the South African and Namibian peoples.

5. Working with all means in the international arena to expose the Zionist racism exercised in our occupied homeland. This racism was confirmed by the historic UN Resolution No. 3379 in 1975 stating that Zionism is a form of racism, and working to abort the Zionist-imperialist move to cancel this resolution.

6. Working to develop positive positions toward our cause in West European circles, in Japan, in Australia, and in Canada, and strengthening relations with democratic parties and forces in the capitalist countries that support our firm national rights.

7. Joining world peoples in the struggle for world peace and international detente, stopping the arms race, averting the danger of a nuclear war, supporting Soviet initiatives in this regard, and exposing the dangers of Israeli nuclear armament in cooperation with South Africa against the region and world peace.

8. Developing relations with Israeli democratic forces supporting the Palestinian people's struggle against Israeli occupation and expansion and the inalienable national rights of our people, including their rights to repatriation and self-determination as well the establishment of their independent state, and recognizing the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Condemning all U.S. imperialist-backed Zionist attempts to drive Jews in a number of countries to emigrate to occupied Palestine, and calling upon all honorable forces to stand up to these feverish propagandist campaigns and their harmful effects.

9. In its 18th session, the PNC appreciates the efforts made by the UN Committee to help the Palestinian people exercise their inalienable rights in cooperation with various UN bodies, especially in organizing periodic symposiums and news conferences with a view to educating world public opinion about the true objectives of the Palestinian people's struggle. The PNC appreciates the efforts of nongovernmental bodies throughout the world to bolster the struggle of the Palestinian people to realize their inalienable rights in Palestine.

Resolutions [Subhead]

The PNC would like to express most profound thanks and appreciation to sisterly Algeria — president, government, and people — for Algeria's noble pan-Arab stand on the Palestinian revolution and people in the common pan-Arab battle for liberation and return. Proceeding from the common Arab destiny and common struggle against the usurper Zionist enemy, Arab solidarity, and the camaraderie of struggle between Algeria and Palestine, the PNC proudly recognizes Algeria's pioneering, pan-Arab role of promoting Palestinian national unity on the heroic land of Algeria. The Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid crowned his genuine pan-Arab initiative on promoting the Palestinian national unity by welcoming and playing host to the comprehensive national dialogue in the Algerian capital.

Highly appreciating these pioneering stands toward our people and revolution, which mark a watershed in the common pan-Arab battle, the PNC would like to stress, on behalf of the Palestinian people and the PLO, that these pioneering Algerian stands are a true expression of Algeria's pan-Arab commitment — president, government, party, and people — to the Palestinian armed revolution and people. The PNC extends heartfelt warm greetings to sisterly Algeria, and promises the country of 1,500,000 martyrs that it will continue the struggle until our people and nation achieve victory and the flag of Palestine flutters over Jerusalem. Greetings to the sons of Algeria who have embraced the revolutionaries of Palestine, as they consolidate their unity and close their ranks under the banner of the struggle for a free independent Palestine.

A Statement on Lebanon and the Camps' Steadfastness [subhead]

The PNC sends greetings of appreciation and pride to our steadfast masses in the camps in Lebanon and to our brave fighters who have honorably and heroically confronted the fierce onslaught waged by the Amal Movement leadership and by those supporting it with the aim of destroying and disarming our camps as a prelude to their evacuation at a time when Israel is carrying out savage raids on our camps to achieve the same objectives.

Our people's steadfastness in these camps has once and for all confirmed the impossibility of liquidating our people, canceling their institutions, or undermining the continuity of their struggle to achieve their constant aims. Moreover, this war aimed to classify the population, which is bound to peddle the schemes of the Zionist-imperialist alliance by establishing sectarian statlets, and which the nationalist, honorable Lebanese masses and forces continue to resist. Naturally, this was not neglected by the kind masses of the Shi'ite sect who were described by Imam Musa al-Sadr [A Shi'ite leader] as a deprived people in their homeland and for whom he asked to care. Proceeding from its charter and resolutions, the PNC reaffirms its pan-Arab stand on fraternal Lebanon as an Arab country whose sovereignty, independence, and the unity of its lands and people we respect. The PNC, in fulfillment of its central cause and of the sanguinary cohesion between the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples who have waged together the most honorable battles against the common Zionist enemy, affirms the continuity of our joint struggle to complete the liberation of southern Lebanon along with the Lebanese and all our Arab peoples until Palestine is liberated, until the Palestinian people return to their land, and until the Palestinian banners are raised in holy Jerusalem. The PNC views that the civil and national rights of our masses in Lebanon have been confirmed and entrenched through various agreements both at Arab summits and in bilateral relations. The PNC affirms that our people's security in Lebanon, along with their legitimate gains, have been confirmed by the unity of fate shared by the two fraternal peoples. This is an opportunity to extend greetings of joint struggle to all nationalist and Islamic forces. The PNC looks forward to the Syrian forces present in the camps' areas shouldering their responsibilities in accordance with the agreements guaranteeing security for our people and their right to protect themselves against any attempts to attack them, besiege our camps, or prevent our people from exercising their right to movement outside these camps in search of their right to an honorable living.

The PNC does not forget the efforts of the honorable foreign friends who supported our people during the tribulation, which has brought great international reaction. The PNC presents to the Executive Committee an urgent recommendation to reconstruct the camps in Lebanon and to compensate for the grave material losses caused by the recent war.

O steadfast kinfolk in Lebanon. O Arab Lebanese people. With your sacrifices you have written legends; by the unity of your stand you have preserved both the cause and the destiny; and the minging of your blood has laid down a solid base for national and pan-Arab unity. Today, the eyes of the whole world are upon you, seeing Palestine and Lebanon in you, and inspiring from your will the determination to continue along the road. O colleagues of martyrs. O colleagues of 'Ali Abu Tawq. O brothers and kinfolk. We support you as you also support us. Tomorrow, the children of Shatila, Al-Rashidiyah, Burj al-Barajinah, and 'Ayn Al-Hulwah will remember the bitter days that entrenched our belief in the liberation of Palestine, the Arabism of Lebanon, the unity of Arabs, and the coming victory, God willing. We support you and we will meet. Glory and immortality to the righteous martyrs. Long live a free, Arab Lebanon! Long live a free, Arab Palestine!

Results of Proceedings Analyzed

LD270508 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1652 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Apr (KUNA) — The PNC ended its meetings at dawn today with a major breakthrough on the road to the unity of the PLO, an alienation from Jordan, the likelihood of a rift with Morocco, and signs of tension in relations with Egypt which could lead to an easing of relations with Syria.

The PNC, which is tantamount to a Palestinian parliament-in-exile, has formed a new executive committee joined for the first time in the history of the PLO by the Palestine Communist Party, which, together with the DFLP, had exerted huge efforts for the restoration of cohesion among the Palestinian combat groups.

The Executive Committee was rejoined by the DFLP and the PFLP, which had not been represented on its since 1984 when they boycotted the PNC's 17th session, held in Amman.

Yasir 'Arafat, who has occupied the post of the Executive Committee chairman for about 18 years, was re-elected by a unanimous vote. His re-election was met with a storm of applause by the PNC members who, a short while before the final session, had been living in suspense lest differences between Fatah and the DFLP and PFLP over the resolutions concerning relations with Egypt undermine what had already been achieved during the intensive Palestinian meetings which began here about 2 weeks ago.

PFLP Secretary General George Habash and DFLP secretary General Nayif Hawatimah had threatened to walk out of the meetings unless 'Arafat abided by the agreement reached concerning the political resolution pertaining to relations with Egypt, which the various groups had reached during the Palestinian dialogue that preceded the PNC meeting.

This threat was made after 'Arafat had said that he had received a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak that the resolution pertaining to relations with Egypt was drafted in strong language "which will certainly lead to complete estrangement in the relations between Egypt and the PLO."

The Egyptian delegation to the PNC meeting, led by head of the Palestine Desk at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, Taha al-Furnuwani, walked out of yesterday morning's session in protest against the form of the resolution even before it was approved.

Hawatimah and Habash left following the crisis and had a tete-a-tete meeting with 'Arafat at his place of residence at the Pine Club, where the PNC was being held, and which lies 20 kilometers from the Algerian capital.

After 3 hours, the three men returned hand in hand and entered the meeting having solved their differences over the resolution pertaining to Egypt, which the PNC unanimously approved during its final session.

The resolution entrusts the new executive committee with the task of defining relations with Egypt on the basis of the resolutions adopted during the successive PNC sessions, in particular the resolutions of the 16th session with the affirmation of the Palestinian constants, namely the Palestine People's right to return and to self-determination, and the consideration of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Egyptian objections centered precisely on the reference to the resolutions of the 16th PNC session which was held in Algiers in 1983 and which provides for refraining from the establishment of any relations between the PLO and Cairo until the latter abandons the Camp David accords which it signed with Israel and the United States in September 1978.

The PNC meeting sources have stated that 'Arafat maneuvered strongly in order to dilute the resolution pertaining to Egypt so as not to anger Cairo and had actually succeeded in the removal of a strongly-worded paragraph, which recalled the 1987 Baghdad Arab Summit Conference resolution under which the Arab countries boycotted Egypt because of its commitment to the Camp David Accords.

The source added that 'Arafat yielded to the demands of the PFLP and DFLP because he did not want to undermine what had already been achieved on the road to the unity of the PLO, which has been divided for 4 years, and because the resolution pertaining to Egypt might not be acceptable to Syria, which stipulated for the restoration of its relations with the PLO leadership that the latter sever its ties with Cairo.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was quoted here to have said in the early days of the PNC meetings that the doors of his capital would be open to all the Palestinian groups without exception, provided they declare their acceptance of the Tripoli Charter concluded among 6 Palestine groups calling among other things to ending all PLO contacts with Egypt until the latter's abandonment of the Camp David Accords.

'Arafat Calls for Joint Palestinian-Israeli State

LD251600 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Rome, 25 Apr (KUNA) — In an urgent dispatch from Algiers today, the Italian news agency says that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has proposed the formation of a Palestinian-Israeli state, describing this option as a "result of historical progress."

The Italian news agency quotes 'Arafat as saying during a meeting with Italian journalists in Algiers today: "I mean what I say. We want a united bi-national state based on a democratic system. We are prepared to call for an emergency session of the UN General Assembly to study this important proposal. I am willing to meet personally with the Israeli side in Geneva under UN supervision."

According to the Italian news agency, 'Arafat also said that by a Palestinian state, he means "a state united with Israel including the Palestinian people and the Israeli community similar to the situation existing in Canada."

These statements attributed to Yasir 'Arafat come just hours before the conclusion of the PNC's 18th session, which has been crowned with agreement by the Palestinian factions to reject UN Security Council Resolution 242, as it regards the Palestinian people as refugees, not as one with an entity.

All the Italian newspapers will publish 'Arafat's statements tomorrow. Mr 'Arafat's proposal was explained here as a direct response to comments by Israeli Minister of State Ezer Weizman. Weizman spoke of his support for a Palestinian-Israeli federation in exchange for the Palestinians' readiness to accept the UN resolution stipulating recognition of the country of occupation.

Some Italian journalists told our correspondant that 'Arafat said: "I propose an alternative to what Weizman said. I do not demand a confederation from Israel now, but coexistence in a united state."

'Arafat declared: "In the long run, I do not see any alternative to this proposal, or rather this choice, as it is the result of historical progress. After all, Israel will never be able to remain an American satellite in the Middle East."

Notes 'Arab Interference'

JN262009 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1749 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, by correspondent Nabil Darwish in Algiers on 26 April — recorded]

[Text][Darwish] After this long absence and in the wake of many differences, disputes, and internecine fighting the Palestinian factions were once again reunited under the PLO canopy yesterday. How will this Palestinian unity be implemented and how will you, as Palestinian leader, deal with this political victory?

['Arafat] May God forgive you, Nabil, for saying that there have been disputes and internecine fighting. You know that what happened was not Palestinian but Arab interference in the Palestinian arena. We must be patient with this Arab interference in the Palestinian arena. At the same, time we apply the dictum which says that even if my own people are unjust toward me, they will continue to be my friends. The Palestinian fighter, the Palestinian young man, the Palestinian woman inside and outside the occupied homeland have demonstrated a nobility of character. All of them fought in defense of their camps, their existence, and their dignity under the banner of the PLO and in a unity which they have splendidly baptized with their blood despite the fact that the conspiracy sought to fabricate fighting among those who are in the same fortress to undermine it. However, they failed to achieve any progress or any victory in this.

[Darwish] But there has been an estrangement which has affected...

['Arafat, interrupting] I would like to tell you this. The only sin that was committed was when some were exploited during the Tripoli incidents, but this sin was never repeated. Even those who participated with the others in what took place in Tripoli, most of them woke up to realize how great their crime had been. They rejoined the Palestinian house. We opened our hearts to all during the dialogue. It is true that some of them insisted on not joining the PNC, but their size has become very small in the Palestinian arena. They constitute a minimal percentage.

[Darwish] And your political victory, how will you deal with it?

['Arafat] I cannot claim that I triumphed because it is difficult for us to triumph. The conspiracy sought to eliminate the Palestinian figure from the Middle East equation. When President Reagan and Begin agreed to the plan that was formulated by Sharon and Alexander Haig, they believed that the operation would be completed in 2 to 5 days, which is the time limit of any Israeli-Arab war. We must also mention the successful war of attrition that we have waged side by side with our brothers the Lebanese in southern Lebanon against this Israeli enemy. That is why we do not consider it to be a personal victory. It is the victory of the entire Palestinian people. I have always wished that we would be as great as the Egyptian people who have been greater than the leaders they had in the past, are greater than the leaders they have at present, and will be greater than the leaders they have in the future.

[Darwish] The intermingling of Arab policies with Palestinian policy continued until the last moment before the PNC, the council of Palestinian national unity, convened. There was a silent crisis with Egypt and another tumultuous crisis with Morocco.

['Arafat] I do not want to anticipate events, but one is pained by the Moroccan decision. We have also been pained by some comments in the Egyptian press.

[Darwish] Maybe also by the Egyptian message [delivered to 'Arafat at the PNC session]?

['Arafat] I am only speaking about the Egyptian press. We were expecting that Egypt and the Arabs would help us and stand on our side instead of working to further divide us. We have succeeded in uniting our ranks and we had hoped to see on this day a smile on the face of our friends to help us overcome the difficulties on our road.

[Darwish] You probably know, Brother Abu 'Ammar, that politics have nothing to do with smiles? ['Arafat] I am not talking about smiles, but about history. Nero's smile made history, as did the smile of Christ while he was carrying the cross.

[Darwish] You were among the first to talk about the international conference which enjoyed unanimous Palestinian approval during this conference, but there ...

['Arafat, interrupting] Nabil, I said something important. When they asked me before the conference, what I wanted from this conference, I told them I want to bolster Palestinian national unity and obtain the approval of the Palestinian people's representatives of the international conference. There is almost international unanimity on this international conference. The nonaligned, Islamic, Arab, and EEC states approved it. The Soviet Union, the PRC, and the socialist bloc approved it. The UN General Assembly approved it at two sessions and adopted Resolutions 58, 38, 41, and 43.

[Darwish] Frankly, Abu 'Ammar, there are differences in viewpoints with Egypt, Syrian, and Jordan. How would you go to the international conference amid this complicated Arab situation?

['Arafat] This difference of views does not work against an issue.

[Darwish] But it seems from recent developments that it has worked against the issue.

['Arafat] Not to me, because I do not at all deal with reactions but with the fact that we constitute the major factor in the Middle East equation. I am accustomed to walking in minefields, but I keep in mind that I am a mine destroyer.

[Darwish] At the beginning of the PNC and through the messages exchanged by Damascus and Algiers, we spoke about what might in politics be called the ping pong game between you and the Syrian leadership. They asked for clear stands on ...

['Arafat, interrupting] [Words indistinct] ping pong!

[Darwish] You called for a meeting of the steadfastness and confrontation front?

['Arafat] I replied to the invitation from my brothers in the Palestinian leadership to visit Damascus before the PNC session. I told them why not hold the dialogue here in Algiers, especially since Brother Salim al-Bid [secretary general of the YSP Central Committee] was here as President Chadli Bendjedid's guest. Moreover, Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was ready to come. I asked for the meeting to discuss matters before our colleagues in the former steadfastness and confrontation front.

[Darwish] However, after what Gorbachev told President al-Asad, and in light of developments and the stands you have adopted at the PNC session on the various issues, have the possibilities of meeting President Hafiz al-Asad increased ...

['Arafat, interrupting] Never before have we closed the door to this possibility. Our Central Council issued a resolution in Baghdad insisting on continuing attempts, despite the wounds, to turn a new leaf.

[Darwish] Frankly speaking, do you have anything to say to the Syrian leadership to break the logjam?

['Arafat] If I am going to say anything, I will not be over Radio Monte Carlo Nabil. [Words indistinct] through all battles, the Palestinian rifle has proved that it is for protecting the Arab nation.

[Darwish] Regarding the Palestinian rifle, is Lebanon a gauge of relations with Syria? Do you view it as a gauge?

['Arafat] It is one of the hot issues because of the camps war. Regarding what our camps have faced, I hope the PNC session and its outcome will mitigate the pains of our children and women.

[Darwish] Abu 'Ammar, before the end of the PNC session commentators began to study the initial results. They said the coming stage will be characterized by a Soviet [word indistinct] regarding Palestinian decisionmaking. They based this explanation on the communist presence inside the Executive Committee and on Soviet support for an international conference.

['Arafat] We support the admission of our brothers in the Palestinian Communist Party. We also admitted representatives of Islamic trends. [Words indistinct].

[Darwish] [Words indistinct] the representatives of Islamic trends, Abu 'Ammar?

['Arafat] You can say both of them. When I named both candidates the PNC accepted them. Now they are representatives on the Central Council. These candidates won on a unanimous basis, as you see.

[Darwish] Who is that candidate?

['Arafat] [Words indistinct]

[Darwish [Words indistinct] while the Communist Party entered as a party and as a faction?

['Arafat] [words indistinct]

[Darwish] What will be the first action to be taken at the first session of the Executive Committee? And what will be the first capital to be visited by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat?

['Arafat] Mahmud Darwish said: My homeland is not a suitcase and I do not travel [Words indistinct]

[Darwish] My homeland is not a suitcase?

['Arafat] Not a suitcase and I do not travel. [words indistinct]

[Darwish] [Question indistinct]

['Arafat][Words indistinct] the new stage. To see our future. How to move.

[Darwish] Weizman made some offers a while ago. Two or 3 months ago, he made a statement that it is necessary to sit down with Abu 'Ammar at one table. Two days ago, he also made similar statements about a Palestinian-Israeli confederation.

['Arafat] Today some papers carried such things. I replied with a challenge. I am challenging everyone; I am confident. I said why a confederation? Why don't we return to a democratic state in Palestine? [Words indistinct] a democratic state with two nations. I said this. What is the Palestinian state [words indistinct]. I said why a confederation [words indistinct]. I s said if you are prepared for an international conference, then come to the international conference [words indistinct].

[Darwish] There is no doubt Weizman's positions are advanced inside Israel. Is there ....

['Arafat, interrupting] Anyhow, I also say I admire his ideas.

[Darwish] Are you prepared to meet with thim?

['Arafat] [Words indistinct]

[Darwish] You met with several Israeli personalities in Lebanon and outside Lebanon.

['Arafat] In accordance with our PNC [word indistinct].

[Darwish] Does the PNC not allow for a meeting with Weizman?

['Arafat] I can meet with him at the United Nations. I am very precise in my expressions, Nabil. Do not try to play with my words, Nabil. Be precise, for I am precise.

[Darwish] You are known for your precision.

['Arafat] And you are known for your intelligence, Nabil.

Stresses Ties With Egypt

NC271035 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] After the Egyptian delegation walked out of the PNC meeting in Algiers and in the wake of a violent press campaign in Egypt against the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat affirmed in a statement published in the newspaper *Al-Ahram* today that Egyptian-Palestinian relations are genuine, strategic, and beyond harm. In a clear reference to his joining the Camp David alliance, 'Arafat said that Egypt is a source of real support for the Palestinians, ignoring reports that the PLO Executive Committee was subjected to pressure regarding this relationship. He said: We are proceeding to promote these relations to serve our common interests.

Asks USSR To Mediate With Syria

LD251729 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1601 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Algiers, April 25 (TANJUG) — Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat yesterday sent a message to Mikhail Gorbachev, requesting the Soviet Union to intervene with President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria in favour of reconciliation between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Syria, it was learned from well informed sources here today.

Syrian President al-Asad has just wound up his state visit to the Soviet Union.

On the other hand, Palestinian officials attending the Palestine National Council (PNC) session in Algiers laid emphasis on their wish — despite sharp criticisms voiced by Qaddumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, against Syria — for better relations with Syria as one of the important factors of the overall Palestinian struggle.

PLO To Attempt 'Immediate Dialogue' With Syria

JN251129 Doha QNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 25 Apr (QNA) — Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the DFLP and a candidate for PLO Executive Committee membership, has said the first step the new Executive Committee will make after being formed this evening is to announce an initiative to begin an immediate dialogue with Syria to reach political agreement on all common issues. In a statement published in today's edition of the Al-Shariqah-based paper *Al-Khalij*, the Palestinian official said the PLO Executive Committee will urge all national Islamic and Lebanese leaders to hold a dialogue to correct Lebanese-Palestinian relations on bases serving the joint struggle of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

Orian Onescu [name as received], member of the Romanian Communist Party's Executive Committee, who is taking part in the PNC meetings in Algeria, said an international conference might convene this year. In similar statements to *Al-Khalij*, Onescu said his country is working to convince the United States and Israel to participate in the conference, as many international parties have realized its importance in achieving regional peace.

Fatah Uprising Leader Criticizes 'Arafat

JN241001 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
22 Apr 87 pp 1, 8

[Text] Damascus — Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], leader of the Fatah Uprising Movement, has accused Yasir 'Arafat of obstructing efforts to reconcile the PLO and Syria, and has ruled out an international Middle East peace conference. In an exclusive statement to *Al-Ittihad*, Abu Musa predicted the current PNC session in Algiers would produce decisions identical to those of the last session, held in Amman in November 1984. He described the abrogation of the Amman accord as meaningless, for the decision embodies another agreement compromising Arab land and Palestinian representation.

Abu Musa charged that the PLO has put itself in the orbit of Egypt and Jordan, chasing the mirage of an international conference. He said the decisions to be passed by the PNC were drawn up beforehand and that the PLO and Egypt are coordinating their positions to join an American-sponsored settlement plan.

He welcomed the unity of the steadfastness and confrontation front, indicating that the PNSF alone has the credentials to speak for Palestinians in the steadfastness front. Abu Musa discounted the possibility of any reconciliation between Syria and 'Arafat, as the two have different agendas and 'Arafat is unwilling to change his existing alliance in favor of balanced ties with Syria.

Qaddumi on Session, Unity

LD261814 Algiers APS in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Algiers, 26 Apr (APS) — Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, made a statement to El-Messa [name as received] in which he dealt with a number of issues under study by the PNC, which is currently in session in Algiers, and the prospects for unified Palestinian action. He said that the military option will never change at all; we are continuing with our armed struggle inside the occupied territories until our feet reach the soil of Palestine. Also, the PLO has, from the very beginning, adopted resolutions regarding its general strategy and policy based on regaining the Palestinian people's national rights — which are based on the resolutions defining the phased aims of the Arab nation, manifested in regaining the Arab and Palestinian territories which have been occupied since 1967; recovering occupied Jerusalem and not accepting any status that violates its Arab nature; and regaining the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as decided by the organization.

Qaddumi added: We say that this international conference is one way through which the Palestinian people can achieve their legitimate rights. But we can say that talking about the international conference is mere exploration of the idea, which has met with the approval of the overwhelming majority of countries in the world. In conclusion, Qaddumi reaffirmed that the organization has taken several steps through dialogue and joint action, and has reached this session so the resistance detachments can work through the PLO. However, it was clear from the start that there is not a single Palestinian who doubted that the PLO was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and that differences are to be resolved democratically — something which preserves our revolutionary march.

DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed on PLO 'Program'

LD261323 Algiers APS in English 1038 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Algiers, 26/4/87 — All the political and structural divergences which occurred since four years on the Palestinian scene and provoked destructive divisions were ironed out, Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) said to APS. Hawatimah who is taking part in the PNC works [as received] here, added that the new PLO political and structural programme was adopted.

This unique programme fits the reality of the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights and changes the balance of powers in the Middle East, he precised.

This programme, Hawatimah pointed out, will allow to counter the projects of capitulation, the separate accords and gave the way to the convening of an international conference on Middle East with the council under the UN sponsorship.

"We will not give in to the various forms of provocation of the different hostile forces to the Palestinian revolution, our intention being to defend our national unity on the political and structural field clarified thanks to a three-year dialogue which resulted in the accord of Moscow, and the unified basis reached by the instance of the global national dialogue. [quotation marks as received]

For Hawatimah the most important thing for the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories and for the Arab nation is unity key [as received] for the Arab solidarity, the convening of an Arab summit which decisions will approve the convening of an international peace conference on Middle East.

Abu Nidal Group's Participation in PNC Examined

PM241445 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
22-28 Apr 87 p 20,21

['Abd al-Bari 'Atwan report from Algiers: "Camps War Brought Abu Nidal Back to Official Palestinian Home"]

[Excerpts] If the convening of the PNC with all the leading Palestinian factions attending was a surprise, the biggest surprise to both Arab and foreign observers was the participation of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, which is led by Sabri al-Banna (Abu Nidal), in the PNC's meetings and consultations. This followed a long boycott of official Palestinian action within the PLO that lasted years.

Those who followed the course of Palestinian dialogue in Algiers have noted many changes in the Palestinian arena. Prominent among these was the self-criticism begun by the PFLP when its strongman, Abu 'Ali Mustafa, admitted that the front made certain mistakes in the past. He focused on errors concerning the question of Palestinian national unity and Arab and Palestinian alliances. The front, he noted, placed these alliances above national unity and made them a condition for its joining in with this unity. He also confessed that all the campaigns against the PLO were futile and had hurt the course of unified Palestinian action. Abu 'Ali Mustafa demanded that Palestinian national unity be considered fundamental and be the condition for all alliances and the principal foundation for dialogue. He stressed that there must be a code of honor under which all Palestinian organizations would pledge to halt their media campaigns. As for DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah, he too conducted some self-criticism and demanded greater openness toward the Arab countries. In a discussion with a group of independent Palestinian personalities, he said he favored normalizing relations with all Arab states, as the only conflict is with Israel. However, he stipulated that normalization should be limited to those countries that abide by the unanimous Arab resolutions adopted at Fes and support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and independent Palestinian representation.

As part of the process of self-criticism and frankness followed by reconciliation, a series of meetings took place in Tripoli and Algiers between Abu Nidal's faction and the parent Fatah Movement. The sessions were initially held in Tripoli alongside the Palestinian reconciliation meetings, in which six Palestinian factions participated in discussing a political document on national unity. The DFLP managed to arrange a meeting betwen 'Atif Abu Bakr, a political official in Abu Nidal's faction, and Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, in the presence of Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, the DFLP's assistant secretary general. After a brief talk, Abu Jihad met with Abu Bakr for several hours behind closed doors. The meeting had a positive effect on the Fatah Revolutionary Council's attitude in the discussion of national unity in that this faction approved the convening of the PNC and agreed to attend.

A more important meeting took place in Algiers between Abu Jihad and Sabri al-Banna (Abu Nidal). There was a prolonged discussion and a full and frank exchange on many issues and on organizational and political matters. The meeting resulted in reconciliation and a purification of the atmosphere between the two parties. Both agreed to continue the dialogue on organizational and political matters that are still the subject of disagreement.

Abu Jihad confirmed to *Al-Majallah* that such a meeting did take place but declined to go into details. He said: "Out of a desire to meet everyone and maintain the unity of the factions of Palestinian action, we have offered our hand to everyone who is defending his country's cause, who is working to strengthen and preserve the PLO, and who rejects all plots to establish a substitute liberation organization. We have met with everyone who responded to such calls and did so to draw up lines of joint cooperation to strengthen Palestinian action."

Abu Jihad added: "In all these meetings we asked a single question: Are you prepared to participate in the PLO programs and resolutions? Are you prepared to defend your people in the camps and stand by their struggle in the occupied territories? The answer to all these questions was affirmative, which we considered the starting point for a dialogue designed to assess the past stage and draw useful political and organizational lessons from it."

When we asked Abu Jihad about the formula defining Abu Nidal's participation in the PNC, and whether this will be through a return to Fatah or as a separate faction, he said all these matters remain under discussion, and will be studied at the PNC meeting halls and in peripheral meetings.

A senior Palestinian source who wished to remain anonymous said that rapprochement between Fatah and Abu Nidal's group began about 18 months ago and developed into cooperation between fighters from both groups, who were defending the camps in Lebanon. At the height of the war Abu Nidal decided to halt the military conflict with Fatah in the camps, as he saw that the war was an attempt to liquidate the Palestinian people in its entirety and that it was not the time for disputes among factions but rather time to thwart this conspiracy. Thus, the fighters closed ranks and stood shoulder to shoulder to prevent the plan to overrun the camps from succeeding.

It appears that the camps war made a considerable contribution to the change that occurred in the Revolutionary Council's positions. A source close to Abu Nidal says that one of the most prominent features in the Revolutionary Council's new trend is to broaden its base among the Palestinian masses, especially in the camps and occupied territories. Thus, the rapprochement between this organization and other Palestinian groups, particularly the factions of the PNSF, began 18 months ago.

The source added: Abu Nidal wants to enter the PNC as an independent faction with a political program independent from the other organizations. [passage omitted]

Palestinian officials do not rule out the possibility of a meeting between 'Arafat and Al-Asad after the conclusion of the PNC session. It might be in Moscow, which the two leaders have been invited to visit at the end of the month, or in an Arab country, possibly Algeria, which has played a major role in uniting the Palestinian factions and in bringing the Syrian and Palestinian points of view closer together. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, political adviser to the Algerian president, and Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi visited Damascus before the PNC convened. They carried an invitation to President al-Asad to attend the PNC and to persuade the opposition factions to participate as well.

If the desired form of Palestinian solidarity is achieved, it will be a fundamental step toward a type of Arab solidarity on firmer foundations, which is the most important target of the current Arab program.

PNC To Convene in Syria Within 3 Months

JN270628 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] In Damascus a Palestinian official who asked not to be identified has said the PNC will hold a new session within the next 3 months in Damascus and that the session will be devoted to the unification of all the Palestinian factions and consolidating the reconciliation between Syria and the PLO leadership.

It is worth noting the reaction of the PNSF which boycotted the PNC 18th session in Algiers. The PNSF spokesman, Khalid 'Abd al-Majid, said the results of the PNC 18th session constitute a first step on the road to complete Palestinian unity.

PLO To Move Headquaters From Tunis to Algiers

LD271029 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Beirut, 27 Apr (KUNA) — According to press reports published here today, the PLO is about to announce the transfer of its headquarters from Tunis to Algiers. The Lebanese newspaper *Al-Safir*, citing informed Arab sources in London, says that the talks on this matter have made good progress and that the announcement of the headquarters move is only days away. It adds that the contacts for the transfer began with the inter-Palestinian dialogue in Algiers.

It also says that "most of the Palestinian factions' representatives are facing difficulties in traveling to and living in Tunisia because of the restrictions imposed by the Tunisian authorities." The paper sees the transfer of the official headquarters to Algiers as a move that is halfway toward a PLO-Syrian reconciliation.

PLO Delegation Reportedly To Visit Morocco

JN251105 Doha QNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Apr (QNA) — A Palestinian source close to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that a senior Palestinian delegation will visit Morocco to meet with His Majesty King Hassan II. The group will brief him on the circumstances that led the Polisario Front to attend the PNC meetings in Algeria and will contain any differences. In a statement published in *Al-Ittihad* here today, the Palestinian source added that Yasir 'Arafat might lead the Palestinian delegation, as PLO leaders have spoken over the telephone with Moroccans in a bid to limit the problems resulting from the Polisario's participation and to remove the effects of Morocco's recent decisions.

The source said the Palestinian delegation will embark on a tour of a number of Arab states to brief their leaders on the results of the PNC meetings.

DFLP Makes Statement on Talks With Zhivkov

LD241754 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1627 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Beirut, 24 Apr (KUNA) — The DFLP reports that Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov, along with Yasir 'Arafat, George Habash, and Nayif Hawatimah, who lead the Fatah Movement, the PFLP, and the DFLP respectively, have studied the possibility of uniting the Palestinian factions in their confrontation of the conspiracies hatched against the Palestinian people.

In a press statement received by KUNA today, the DFLP said Zhivkov emphasized that the Palestinian people's victory will come only through through PLO unity and that no other factor is more important than national unity.

The DFLP added that the Bulgarian president stressed that international conditions are ripe for an international conference on the Middle East crisis and that PLO unity guarantees its participation as an independent representative of the Palestinian people. Unity also means security until self-determination and an independent state are achieved. He also highlighted the fact that the international balance of power will secure strong support in the Middle East in favor of the Palestinian people and Arab rights.

The Bulgarian president concluded by noting the Palestinians' emphasis on unity based on a political program and an organizational reform agreed upon in the comprehensive dialogue. He said the national dialogue session has decided on a program for national unity that develops PLO institutions, as it is a broad national front of the Palestinian people.

'Arafat Meets With Sudanese Delegation to PNC

JN251227 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Algiers Apr 25 (SUNA) — Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat met here yesterday with Sudanese delegation currently participating in the Palestinian National Council Meetings. The meeting focused on the political developments in the Arab and international areas towards the Palestinian question. 'Arafat during the meeting strongly criticized the Moroccan move toward the participation of the delegation of the Western Sahara in the PNC session.

He confirmed to the Sudanese delegation the Palestinian leaders keenness to preserve unity, noting that a meeting would be held shortly to intensify Arab efforts to remove differences among the Palestinian factions.

Meanwhile, PLO Political Bureau Chairman Faruq Qaddumi has hailed the Sudanese Palestinian relations during the current democratic developments in Sudan.

Qaddumi who was addressing the PNC session here yesterday praised Sudan for its full support to the Palestinian peoples and commitment to their just cause. He pointed out that despite the democratic atmosphere Sudan is still suffering from the civil war in the south.

Meanwhile, the delegation of the Sudanese Popular Front for the Support of the Palestinian Revolution held a meeting Wednesday with an Egyptian delegation comprising Al-Wafd, Al-Ahrar, Al-'Amal, Al-Tajammu' and Al-Ummah Parties.

KUWAIT

Car Bomb Explodes Outside Petroleum Company

LD262025 Kuwait KUNA in English 1950 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Kuwait, April 26 (KUNA)— A booby-trapped automobile exploded today before the main building of the Kuwait Petroleum Company in Al-Ahmadi, a ministry of interior source said tonight.

The source told KUNA no casualties resulted from the blast.

The source said the explosion occurred at 1650 (1350 GMT).

He said the booby-trapped car was parked in the parking lot opposite the building of the petroleum company.

An explosive, noted the source, was placed in the luggage compartment of the vehicle. A number of cars parked adjacently suffered damages as a result of the blast but no harm to lives resulted, the source added.

Security officials have immediately launched an investigation to determine the owner of the bomb car and the circumstances surrounding the incident, the source declared.

Daily Condemns 'Interference' Over Shipping

LD251217 Kuwait KUNA in English 0937 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Kuwait, April 25 (KUNA) — Daily *Al-Ra'y al-Amm* Saturday affirmed here that Kuwait does not accept any "guardianship" from anyone, as Kuwait is an independent state and acts according to what it sees fit.

In a front page editorial, the daily stressed that false rumours by media will not have an impact on the faith of Kuwait's people in their nation and wise leadership.

The paper questioned reasons behind the interference in the country's internal affairs and spreading of false rumours and fabricated news.

Al-Ra'y al-Amm elaborated that Kuwait's policy is crystal clear, "we have nothing to hide, and we practice our freedom within the correct framework and all conferences which were held in Kuwait proved that this country enjoys security and stability."

On the freedom of chartering ships to be used for commercial purposes, the newspaper asserted that "nobody can impose anything on us, or interfere in our relations with other states in East and West which are based on mutual respect."

In conclusion, the paper said that Kuwait, although small in population, is strong in its defense of basic rights as a nation.

PDRY

Al-'Attas Receives Soviet Religious Official

EA241926 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, met in his office this morning with Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs attached to the USSR Council of Ministers. During the session, Brother al-'Attas welcomed the Soviet delegation, stressing the interest of the party and government in supporting our country's men of religion. He noted that cooperation between the Ministry of Justice and Aqwaf and the Soviet Council for Religious Affairs must be strengthened. He also praised the comprehensive backing our country receives from the friendly Soviet Union on the basis of the treaty of friendship and cooperation.

For his part, Comrade Konstantin said he was happy to visit our country and was pleased with the talks and meetings he held with brother officials from the Ministry of Justice and Aqwaf and men of religion. He emphasized that cooperation between the Soviet Council for Religious Affairs and our country's Ministry of Justice and Aqwaf will grow in regard to exchanges of visits, delegations, and experience between men of religion in both states. There will also be greater coordination between them at international Islamic meetings and conferences. In addition, he briefly explained the experience of the Council for Religious Affairs, its important role in Soviet society, the attention it receives from the Soviet party and state, and the guarantees of freedom for various religions and beliefs which Soviet citizens enjoy. The meeting was also attended by Brother 'Abd al-Qasi Salam, minister of justice and aqwaf.

Kharchev, Delegation Depart

LD261746 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Soviet Council of Religious Affairs, and the members of his delegation left Aden this evening after a visit to our country lasting several days. During his stay, he familiarized himself with the conditions of Muslims. In a statement to ANA before leaving Aden International Airport, Comrade Kharchev expressed his gratitude and appreciation to our party and state leaders and the Ministry of Justice and Aqwaf for providing him and his delegation with the opportunity to tour the PDRY, during which they had a chance to see how Muslims live, and stop at historic sites and a number of mosques. He stressed that the USSR had helped and would continue to help the PDRY in all fields with the goal of improving the Yemeni people's standard of living.

A cooperation protocol was signed this evening by Democratic Yemen's Ministry of Justice and Aqwaf and the delegation from the Council of Religious Affairs attached to the Soviet Council of Ministers.

Deputy Minister on Soviet Role in Oil Industry

EA240415 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Text] Brother Rashid al-Kaf, deputy minister of energy and minerals, has explained that the agreement signed between the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen lists the general conditions for cooperation in oil exploration and exploitation. It states clearly that the role of our Soviet partners is limited to scientific and technical assistance in their capacity as contractors for the Ministry of Energy and Minerals in return for remuneration previously agreed upon. This is financed by [word indistinct] extended by the Soviet Government to Democratic Yemen. All the oil extracted is considered Yemeni property. He said this in an interview for today's edition of the newspaper *Al-Shararah*, organ of the party committee in Hadramawt Governorate.

Brother al-Kaf added that Soviet-Yemeni cooperation in the search for and extraction of natural resources is completely different from scientific, technical, and economic collaboration with the Soviet Union in other fields. He stressed that cooperation in oil and mineral exploration takes the form of turnkey projects. This means that our Soviet partners do their work as contractors for their Yemeni counterparts. Once their part of the project is completed, they hand over the work to the Yemeni side, which is in charge of exploitation. He emphasized that the development of wells will continue as methods of exploration are perfected.

YSP Political Bureau Briefed on Al-Bid Visits

EA262336 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] At its regular session this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, the YSP Political Bureau was briefed on the visit which the brother secretary general and his delegation made to Syria, the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Algeria; on the meetings he held with the leaders of the three sister states; and on their participation in the 18th national unity session of the PNC, the session of [words indistinct] of the camps and the masses of the occupied homeland.

The Political Bureau considered as constructive the meetings which the brother secretary general held with Brother Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic and secretary general of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party; with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution in the Libyan Jamahiriyah; and with Chadli Bandjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN. These helped strengthen contacts among the leaders of the four sisterly states and opened new horizons for developing relations between our country and Syria, the Libyan Jamahiriyah, and Algeria. They were also a step toward achieving comprehensive Arab solidarity to confront the imperialist and Zionist plots against our Arab states. [Words indistinct] the Political Bureau [passage indistinct]

QATAR

Education Minister Returns From Egypt Visit

JN251559 Doha QNA in Arabic 1446 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Doha, 25 Apr (QNA) — His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hamad Al Thani, Qatari minister of education and youth, returned to Doha today after a 1-week visit to Egypt. During his stay, he and senior Egyptian officials discussed ways of promoting bilateral cooperation in education, culture, and science.

The Qatari minister's visit also included meetings with President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi to review aspects of the two countries' collaboration and ways to advance it. In addition, he visited a number of Egyptian educational and cultural institutions.

UAE

President Receives Message From Iran's Khamene'i

JN261603 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1248 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Apr (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, has received a verbal message from Iranian President Khamene'i on current developments in the region and bilateral relations.

Iranian Deputy Intelligence Minister Lutfallah Atbaki [name and title as received] delivered the message during a meeting with Shaykh Zayid today. The session was also attended by Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, director of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's Political Department. The UAE was represented by Hammudah ibn 'Ali, minister of state for internal affairs, and a number of other UAE officials.

The Iranian official arrived in Abu Dhabi on Thursday.

YAR

President Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

JN250614 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, has received a message from his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, dealing with the latest developments in Libya and the Arab world.

Al-Iryani Returns From Algiers PNC Session

JN240739 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the General People's Congress Standing Committee, returned to Sanaa from Algiers this evening after participating in the 18th PNC session. While in Algiers, he made a speech on behalf of the president-leader and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

The brother deputy prime minister and foreign minister said he had delivered a message from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to his brother Chadli Bendjedid on bilateral relations and Arab developments.

Romanian Deputy Foreign Minister Leaves Sanaa

JN241449 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Traian Pop, Romania's deputy foreign affairs minister, left Sanaa this morning after a visit lasting several days. During his stay, he held talks with brother officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other ministries with the goal of enhancing bilateral relations.

In a statement to SABA', Pop described his trip to our country as successful and productive. He noted that he and the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry reviewed bilateral relations, ways of strengthening them, and international issues of common interest. In addition, he said both sides held identical views on all questions discussed, including the two countries' desire to bring about nuclear disarmament and work for continued cooperation among all states.

Concluding his remarks, the Romanian official said he held talks with brother officials from the Ministry of Economy, Supply, and Trade, the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the Ministry of Education, the Central Planning Commission, and the Military Economic Establishment in order to bolster and broaden bilateral economic ties.

The Romanian official was seen off by Brother Ahmad al-Iryani, under secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a number of ministry officials, and the Romanian charge d'affaires in Sanaa.

Mubarak Speech Marks Sinai Liberation Day

NC240942 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0814 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to mark Sinai Liberation Day; place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother citizens, this is a heart-to-heart talk to mark an immortal day in our lives: 25 April. No Egyptian will ever forget this date. This is the day the Egyptian flag was hoisted over every inch of liberated Egyptian soil. This is the day of the Egyptian people, who supported their armed forces until the flag was raised. This is the day to honor the heroes of the armed forces, fighters and martyrs alike, who have provided the most remarkable examples of sacrifice in defense of honor and for the sake of Egypt's dignity and the dignity of all its citizens. Egypt did not fight for the sake of war, but for the sake of peace. It did so after the world turned a deaf ear to our sincere call for peace. Our martyrs wrote the greatest documents of liberty and liberation with their own blood. Our fighters provided concrete evidence of belief in God and the homeland with their courage. The whole world, from east to west, woke to discover that Egypt was not the corpse that laid so still 50 years ago as enemies claimed and friends might have thought.

From this place, from this scene of dignity, honor, and national pride, Egypt extended its hand for peace. It was at the summit of victory. The struggle for peace was not easier than the struggle of war. However, Egypt entered the battle of peace with the same relentless persistence with which it entered war. Its belief was never shaken. Our human and cultural message is the message of peace. It is a message of building and reconstruction, a message of love, and a message of unity among mankind everywhere. It is a message to ensure that every man can enjoy the human rights legislated by religion and stipulated by charters, so that we may be worthy of the life with which the Almighty has endowed us. The liberation of the land does not simply mean the raising of flags. The liberation of the land means that we will make every possible effort on this soil to ensure that social justice is established, that the opportunity to do an honorable job is made available to every citizen, and that every citizen is allowed his legitimate right to a dignified life.

Hoisting the flag of liberation was the first signal for us to raise the flag of action and achievement of a better future that will enrich our lives with freedom, democracy, and stability. Democratic construction goes hand in hand with the construction of peace. Democracy was the starting point for the march toward building and reconstruction.

Hence, the stability that we defend with all our strength. We did this to ensure that development would be achieved and that prosperity would flourish. We did this so that every family in Egypt would feel that it lives on its land with dignity and pride and be assured that the law can protect its rights and the rights of others.

Fellow countrymen, 25 April marks the day the last foreign soldier was evacuated from the last inch of our cherished land. This day remains a shining sign that our brave armed forces are the shield and impregnable noble fortress for all the people's gains and for all the values and principles that govern the march of construction. I extend heartfelt greetings to all the brave men who have proved in battle that they are fit to shoulder great responsibility and that they can always do so perfectly. Such men as these sacrificed their lives to give life to Egypt. Profound greetings to those men who work quietly and who are ready to perform the duty of sacrifice at any time. These men are an indivisible part of a society that appreciates their performance and sacrifice with feelings of allegiance and gratitude.

Such was the internal front during the immortal October war. This front protected the heroes of the crossing, the heroes of sacrifice and combat. I extend sincere greetings to every member of our armed forces who have proved that our national unity is the sharpest weapon in fending off the evils of aggression. These evils do not differentiate one Egyptian from another. We fight for the sake of establishing peace. We build to ensure that peace will prevail in the homeland. Yes, brother compatriots, our main message today is to forge ahead and overcome all difficulties and obstacles. With God's protection and by the willpower of the Egyptian man, we will be able to realize all hopes.

The fluctuating climate of the world economy, the sudden drop in our resources due to oil prices, and the dreadful increase in population are all hurdles. However, they have not prevented us from scoring achievements to offset what we have missed. We have missed a great deal, so we must achieve far more. The fact that our country enjoys peace and stability, praise be to God, has helped us overcome our obstacles. Our people, who believe in their national unity, have helped us surmount existing difficulties.

We have taken great strides forward, as we are all convinced that only the hands of Egypt can build Egypt. All these indications make us quite happy on 25 April. I believe that every Egyptian is happy as well. Flags were raised high by the hands of men, and the flags will never come down by the hands of men. Verily we shall not suffer to perish the reward of any who do a single righteous deed. [Koranic verse] May peace and God's blessings and mercy be upon you.

Mubarak Issues 'Warning' to PNC on Resolutions

NC250419 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2040 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — The weekly *Akhbar al-Yawm* reports that President Husni Mubarak is paying close attention to the PNC debates now taking place in Algiers on relations between Egypt and the PLO, and that the president is interested in the results of the PNC meetings.

In its edition slated to appear tomorrow, Saturday, the paper says President Mubarak has sent a warning to the PNC that any harmful reference to Egypt will meet with a deterrent response from the Egyptian leadership. President Mubarak also warned the PNC that any statement in its resolutions that damages Egypt or tries to come between the Egyptian people and their wishes will prompt Egypt to take the toughest conceivable measures against those Palestinian leaders who mean any harm to Egypt. The paper notes that Egypt's final response to the PNC resolutions will be given in President Mubarak's address next Thursday, on the occasion of May Day. In his address, the paper continues, President Mubarak will define Egypt's stand on and reaction to any encroachment or provocation similar to those contained in statements by certain Palestinian leaders during their conference in Algiers.

Akhbar al-Yawm stresses that Egypt's reaction will be a tough one, for the following reasons:

1. Egypt has mobilized all its resources on behalf of the Palestinian cause since 1948.

2. Egypt has devoted all its energies in foreign policy to the service of the Palestinian cause and has spared no effort in this area over the years.

3. Egypt's government and people have done and continue to do a great deal in the interest of the Palestinian leaders and people. They have not conspired against them like some, who are sowing division among the Palestinian people and plotting massacres against them.

Delegation's Departure Confirmed

JN260653 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0500 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Official sources have confirmed to me that instructions have been issued to the official delegation at the PNC in Algiers to withdraw and return immediately to Cairo, amid great disappointment in official and popular circles with the discussion of Egypt and its role, which Cairo viewed as interference in its affairs. The sources I spoke with warned that Cairo's reaction will be strong and serious regarding Egypt's relations with the PLO. The source declared: We will neither accept nor remain silent on any recommendations adopted by the PNC that impinge on Egypt or try to differentiate between the people and their leaders.

An informed source told me: Although Egypt remained silent on some past resolutions, the situation now is different. Palestinian leaders and organizations are expected to have passed such a stage at a time when serious preparations to solve the Palestinian problem are being made internationally, and include Egypt's efforts. The source told me that the gravity of the present stage requires that the PLO strengthen its links not only with Egypt, but with all the Arab states. He warned that if the PLO wants to return to the language of the past, Egypt could easily face such a situation with given positions and specific measures.

The general feeling in Cairo is that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat may have won tactically, but that dangers exist in the long-run.

On the official level, political leaders have refrained from commenting on the developments at the PNC affecting Egypt. Ambassador Taha al-Farnawani, leader of the Egyptian delegation, is scheduled to return to Cairo to present his report to 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the PNC discussions and the outcome of his meeting with Yasir 'Arafat.

A senior official told me that the attack on Egypt and its policy is the main reason for the Egyptian delegation's departure, and asked: In whose interest do the Palestinian factions attack Egypt, and whose interests are served by reversing the process of convergence between Egypt and the Palestinians? He said the PNC resolutions are a departure from all that can strengthen Egyptian-Palestinian ties. He asserted that the PLO should have recognized the serious consequences of what happened, but there are others trying to undermine these relations.

Press Views PNC Events

NC260500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) — [passage omitted] Reports of the Egyptian delegation's withdrawal from the meetings of the PNC, currently being held in Algiers, are the lead story in the Sunday editions of Cairo's newspapers.

Al-Ahram conveys this news under the headline: "Egypt's Delegation Walks Out of the PNC Meetings To Protest Stands Adopted by Certain Extremist Palestinian Factions; Certain Palestinian Factions Pressure 'Arafat into Cutting PLO's Ties With Egypt."

Al-Akhbar publishes the story under the headline: "Egyptian Delegation Withdraws To Protest Attacks on Egypt by Certain Palestinians."

In a front-page report, *Al-Ahram* also notes that official sources have refrained from commenting on the delegation's departure.

In another report, *Al-Ahram* says Jordan's King Husayn will visit Egypt in the next few days for talks with President Husni Mubarak. [passage omitted]

Cairo Radio Comments

NC261529 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1245 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Commentary by Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb: "A Foolish Game and A Losing Gamble"]

[Text] The satisfaction felt at the return of the dissident Palestinian factions to their parent organization has been accompanied by an equal measure of astonishment at the bizarre conditions that some factions have put forward for a reconciliation. These factions set the following conditions for returning to the PLO: freezing relations between the PLO and Egypt, abolishing the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, and officially rejecting UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

These three conditions constitute an irresponsible shuffling of all the cards of the Palestinian cause and have put Palestinian action back where it was 5 years ago.

The talk about canceling the Jordanian-Palestinian accord came as no surprise to anyone. It was even expected, since the agreement had been suspended and neither Jordan nor the PLO had been able to coordinate their positions in line with its provisions. Likewise, talk of refusing to recognize UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 was nothing new, as the PLO has refused to recognize them since the date of their adoption.

What remains, then, is the question of suspending the PLO's relations with Egypt. This particular issue demands careful scrutiny because, with this condition, matters reach an unreasonable limit, and, we fear, a most ungenerous one.

The Egyptian stand on the Palestinian issue since 1948 has been such that it needs no certificate of appreciation from anyone. When Egypt made sacrifices, struggled, and bore a burden exceeding its ability, it did not do so to seek the approbation of any of the Palestinian factions that have sold themselves and their allegiance for the sake of ends other than the good of the Palestinian people. God forbid we should have intended, by anything we have said so far, to cast aspersions on brothers living through an ordeal and who need all available, as well as unavailable, assistance.

However, what begs discussion is the regrettable resolution adopted by the PNC in Algiers, which states that the PNC has charged the PLO Executive Committee with the task of defining the PLO's relationship with Cairo on the basis of the 16th PNC session, which was also held in Algeria in 1983. We recall here that the 16th PNC session's resolutions urged that Egypt abrogate the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty with Israel. Until that happens, the PNC urges the promotion of relations between the PLO and Egypt's democratic forces. In other words, this resolution means that the PLO must deal only with democratic Egyptian forces, or, to be more precise, the Egyptian opposition. It would appear that the PNC believes the Egyptian opposition is not part of the Egyptian people and is a force insubordinate to the legitimate leadership. Nevertheless, what the PNC sees as a gesture designed to honor the Egyptian democratic forces will in fact be rejected by them, as the PNC is giving them the same treatment it has given Israel's democratic forces, with whom it has also urged stronger relations. In short, the PNC has put the democratic forces of Egypt and Israel in the same boat, and the Egyptian political leadership headed by President Mubarak with the Shamir government in another.

We reject this Palestinian position in form and content, not merely because it shows a lack of appreciation for the Egyptian people's sacrifices and ignores President Mubarak's role, nor even because it attempts to incite one part of the Egyptian people against another. No, we reject it primarily because the reconciliation among the Palestinian factions has actually been an opportunistic introduction to the establishment of new axes in the Middle East intended to benefit local and international political forces at the expense of others. The PNC thinks these other forces can have no further role, and that, consequently, it has to gamble on the new forces to secure a safe area of activity in Lebanon and gain a greater role in the international peace conference. The entire game, from beginning to end, is a foolish one, and gambling on its outcome is a certain loss.

AL-AKHBAR Views Amman Accord Abrogation

JN241131 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Apr 87 p 5

[Editorial: "Whose Interests Are Served by the Abrogation of the Jordanian-Palestinian Accord?"]

[Text] There is a clear contradiction in the statement the PLO Executive Committee issued the day before yesterday announcing the abrogation of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord concluded on 25 February 1985. While announcing the abrogation of this accord, the PLO Executive Committee said the agreement had been an obstacle to the development of relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian people.

Then the PLO said it would pursue efforts to seek new bases for relations with Jordan and other Arab countries, taking into consideration resolutions adopted by Arab summits that approved the draft project of convening an international peace conference attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the major parties to the conflict, including the PLO. This shows the PLO wants peace. Is the abrogation of the Jordanian- Palestinian accord in the interest of the cause of peace or not?

Would the accord's continued validity been in the Palestinian people's interest or not?

The Amman agreement stipulates the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. It notes: The Palestinian people will exercise their right to self-determination within a confederal union between two Arab states, the Jordanian and Palestinian states. Does this not fulfill the Palestinian people's aspirations? Would this not achieve the establishment of a Palestinian state?

The accord the PLO abrogated also provides for the full settlement of the Palestinian problem and a resolution of the Palestinian refugees' problem in accordance with UN resolutions. Does this harm Palestinian rights in any way? Does this not bring the Palestinians an honorable solution rescuing them from their tribulation? The abrogated accord also calls for peace talks as part of an international conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all parties concerned with the conflict, including the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. Is this not what the Palestinians want, or will their participation in an Arab delegation of more than one Arab country be much different?

The accord was paralyzed in practice long before the PLO Executive Committee announced its abrogation the day before yesterday. The decision to abrogate this accord was no surprise. However, we fear more concessions will be made in the interest of extremists loyal to Syria. This will only please Israel, which wants things to remain as they are.

Al-Qadhdhafi Reportedly To Send Envoy to Cairo

JN241038 Doha QNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (QNA) — The Egyptian opposition newspaper *Al-Wafd* today cited senior political sources as saying that Libyan President [as received] Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has recently shown a readiness to send a special envoy to Cairo to hold consultations with Egyptian officials and reduce tension in bilateral relations. The newspaper said Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi has been tapped to visit Cairo should the Egyptian authorities agree to receive him.

The newspaper pointed out that Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam proposed to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak during his recent visit to Cairo that he mediate between Egypt and Libya, bring their views closer together, and discuss the possibility of resolving the differences between the two states.

Egyptian-Libyan relations were marked by severe tension after Libyan pilots in two planes fled to Egypt and Libyan border guards abducted three Egyptians.

Al-Mahjub Elected People's Assembly Speaker

JN251710 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 23 Apr 87 p 1

[Excerpt] The People's Assembly yesterday elected Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub speaker by a large majority. Al-Mahjub received 392 of the 454 votes cast. His rival, Ibrahim Shukri, obtained only 54 votes. [passage omitted]

USSR Deputy Minister Petrovskiy Arrives 24 Apr

Tours Basra, Praises Residents

JN241354 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Basra, 24 Apr (INA) — USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy has arrived in the valiant city of Basra, the city of cities, from Kuwait on a visit to Iraq.

Petrovskiy was received in the Safwan area by Basra Governor Anwar Sa'id 'Umar, governorate officials, and the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad. The governor of Basra briefed the Soviet guest on the history of civilization in Basra and its people's confrontation of the Iranian aggression, their support for their Iraqi Army, and their denial of the Zionist Iranian regime's evil objectives.

Petrovskiy said: Giving Basra the name city of cities reflects the Iraqis' humanitarian feelings toward this city, which we wanted to visit. We have read a great deal about this city in stories and novels.

He added that he was pained when he saw the results of the shelling of the city's residential area and its beautiful squares. He praised the residents of Basra, who continued with their daily work despite the continuous shelling of the city. He pointed out that a peaceful end to the war has become a necessity and that the postponement of measures necessary to end the conflict was regrettable.

The Soviet official toured the city of Basra and familiarized himself with civilization and normal life in the city despite the Zionist Iranian regime's continuous bombardment.

Arrives in Baghdad

JN242018 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Apr (INA) — USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy arrived here tonight from Basra, where he hadarrived this morning from Kuwait. During his stay, the Soviet official will hold talks with a number of Iraqi officials on questions of common interest.

Received by Saddam Husayn

JN251146 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1132 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Apr (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received a verbal message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on bilateral relations, the regional situation, and issues of common interest. Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy conveyed the message during a meeting with the president.

The session included a review of developments in the area, the continuation of Iran's aggression against Iraq, and Iranian threats to security and stability in the Arab Gulf. Also examined were the ongoing efforts in the UN Security Council to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Iraq-Iran conflict in accordance with international law and UN resolutions.

The meeting was also attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the president's secretary; and the Soviet ambassador to Iraq.

Meets With Tariq 'Aziz

JN251317 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Apr (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy. During the meeting they discussed relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote them. They also examined the Iran's continuous aggression against Iraq and issues of mutual interest.

Also present were the Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, the head of the Foreign Ministry's organizations department, and the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad.

Saddam Husayn Receives Jordan's Al-Fayiz

JN251140 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1122 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Apr (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union. The meeting was also attended by Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and speaker of the National Assembly, and the president's secretary.

Combat in Various Sectors for 23-27 Apr Reported

Communique No 2,653

JN241700 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Communique No 2,653 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 April 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces have continued their heroic activities, imposing their control on all battlefields, confirming their complete superiority, and inflicting further losses on the Zionist regime of charlatans in scoundrels, equipment, weapons, and oil supplies. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. Our heroic Air Force, the creator of great epics in the battle of honor and dignity, the battle in defense of beloved Iraq, has continued to inflict additional losses on the enemy scoundrels and war machine. Our Air Force conducted 50 combat missions today in which it destroyed the Khomeyniites' positions over their heads. With God's help, the valiant hawks achieved the following:

A. At 0940 today, the planes of our Air Force spotted a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. They dealt it an accurate and effective blow.

B. At 1325 today, the planes of our heroic Air Force spotted a second large maritime target near the Iranian coast and dealt it an accurate, effective blow.

C. At the same time, while performing their duty of cutting off the charlatan regime's oil supplies, which are used for aggressive purposes, our voracious hawks spotted an enemy F-4 aircraft. They dealt it a direct blow and turned it into fragments to be swallowed up by the sea.

After carrying out all these combat missions, our heroic hawks returned safely with their planes to the homeland. Blessed be our valiant hawks. God be praised for His victory.

2. The brave soldiers of right continued to pursue the enemy scoundrels in the I Army Corps northern sector, killing more rotten Khomeyniites and inflicting further losses on them in equipment and weapons. Our brave men in this sector captured 40 assorted weapons and destroyed and burned 12 vehicles of various types loaded with ammunition and personnel. They also directed artillery fire at enemy positions, destroying and silencing them.

3. The helicopter knights continued their heroic struggle, inflicting heavy losses on enemy personnel, equipment, and positions. They carried out 120 combat sorties, after which they returned safely and triumphantly to base in God's care.

4. Through their various heroic activities, the brave men of the VII Army Corps inflicted further losses in life and equipment on the enemy, in addition to the following confirmed losses: The destruction of 20 infantry positions, the burning and destruction of 6 vehicles, some of them loaded with personnel and ammunition, the killing of 9 enemy soldiers, the destruction of 4 ammunition dumps, the damaging of a shovel [preceding word in English], and the destruction of a tower and an observation post.

5. The heroic men of our Navy spotted three enemy boats near the port [not further specified]. Our brave units confronted them and destroyed and burned a boat, including those aboard. The other two vessels fled.

6. Our formations in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah directed effective artillery and tank fire at enemy positions before them. They destroyed a shovel, six different positions, and two ammunition dumps, and set fire to other enemy posts.

7. A 106-mm gun and a vehicle were destroyed in the I Special Army Corps sector, the Allahu Akbar Forces.

8. Our units in the VI Army corps sector east of Tigris attacked several enemy boats and forced them to flee, and destroyed a vehicle.

9. The charlatan clique ruling in Iran shelled residential areas in the village of Chuwartah with long-range artillery, wounding two children and damaging several homes.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 April 1987

Communique No 2,654

JN251632 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Communique No 2,654 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 April 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq's glory increases each day, its victory deepens, and its fighters become more determined, while the forces of injustice and vice continue to be defeated and sustain further losses at the hands of our loyal, courageous sons. The following are the overall heroic activities of our units for last night and today:

1. Our victorious forces in the heroic I Army Corps northern sector continue to pursue the enemy's defeated remnants with all types of weapons and with the help of our heroic, effective artillery. Our forces attacked enemy positions, killing more scoundrels, and destroyed 22 vehicles of various types.

2. With resolution and ability, the heroic knights of our helicopter gunships continued their daring raids on enemy units in the operational areas, inflicting serious losses on the enemy in personnel, vehicles, and equipment in 56 combat missions. Our knights returned to their bases safely and in God's care.

3. The heroic men of the III Army Corps continued their gallant activities against the aggressors, inflicting losses on the scoundrel Khomeyniites in their rear lines in addition to the following confirmed losses: The destruction of three vehicles, the demolition of seven amunition dumps, the burning and destruction of two shovels [preceding word in English], the destruction of a heavy machine gun and the killing of its crew, and the destruction and silencing of a number of sources of enemy fire.

4. Our units on the VII Army front managed to destroy two vehicles carrying ammunition as well as one machine gun emplacement. Three ammunition dumps were also blown up.

5. Eight enemy personnel were killed, two were wounded, and a vehicle was destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 April 1987

Communique No 2,655

JN261649 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Communique No 2,655 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 April 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces score a victory for Iraq each day and confirm their overwhelming superiority over their charlatan enemies — the agents of Zionism, the rulers of Iran. In addition, our forces affirm the defeat of the unjust clique and the collapse of their remnants through the amazing and daring performance of our brave men. The following are our overall activities for last night and today:

1. Our victorious forces in the heroic I Army Corps northern sector continue to deal crushing blows to the enemies of our country through their daring combat operations, firing on the enemy remnants and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in the rear. Our forces also inflicted the following confirmed losses: The destruction of 28 vehicles carrying scoundrels,killing 40 of them, a shovel [preceding word in English], and a bulldozer. Some equipment and weapons were also seized.

2. The men of our brave helicopter gunships conducted 21 combat missions against enemy positions, killing their personnel and destroying their equipment and weapons. Our aircraft then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Units from our brave artillery on the VII Army Corps front dealt effective blows to units deep inside enemy territory and on their front lines. Other formations staged heroic operations, inflicting serious losses on the aggressors in addition to the following confirmed losses: The killing of 11 scoundrels, the destruction of 6 positions of various types, with those inside either killed or wounded, and the destruction of a vehicle and 2 shovels.

4. With continuous firepower and daring operations, our gallant men in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah continued their heroic confrontation of the scoundrel Khomeyniites, inflicting additional losses on them. Three gun emplacements and a machine gun were destroyed, and a large number of enemy personnel were killed.

5. Two enemy rafts were destroyed and a vehicle laden with ammunition was burned in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

6. A number of Iranian troops sought refuge with our forward units on the battlefield. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 April 1987

Iranians in North Sector Flee

JN270936 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Apr (INA) — The Iraqi Armed Forces have compelled an Iranian force to flee when it tried to approach a vantage point on the Iraqi border in the northern sector of the battlefield. In a statement to INA a short while ago, an official Iraqi military source said that at 0215 today [2215 GMT 26 April] an Iranian force attempted to approach one of the vantage points in the battlefield's northern sector. The source added that the Iraqis confronted the Iranians, forcing them to escape inside the Iranian border after suffering heavy losses in men, equipment, and weapons.

Navy Commander Details Al-'Amiq Port Battle

JN241339 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Bahdad, 24 Apr (INA) — A senior Iraqi military commander has said the Iraqi Navy's skillful actions, as well as its ability to go into combat using new techniques and a high degree of coordination, completely thwarted Iran's naval offensive against the southern Iraqi port of Al-'Amiq yesterday morning.

In a statement today to the newspaper *Al-Qadisiyah*, organ of the Iraqi Ministry of Defense, Staff Rear Admiral 'Abd Muhammad 'Abdallah, commander of the Navy and coastal defense, noted that the Iranian regime sent some 50 gunboats loaded with guns, rocket launchers, and heavy weapons against Al-'Amiq with the mistaken impression that this great number of vessels could overpower the port.

He said the blow dealt to the enemy gunboats by the Iraqi Navy overwhelmed the Iranian regime and made it lose its senses, causing it to throw additional gunboats and a large part of its fleet into the battle to boost its forces' morale and to act as a command and control platform, once it felt the Iraqi Navy's great and effective might.

Rear Adm 'Abdallah explained that the Iraqi Navy launched a surprise missile strike from another direction at a large Iranian ship, destroying it completely. The vessel was seen sinking in the Arab Gulf. He added that the excellent execution of orders, the Iraqi Navy's high level of performance, its swift decision making, its actions responding to the realities of the battle, and the permanent alertness of the field command have all boosted the Iraqi Navy's morale. They have also created a great spirit of understanding between the command and those who carry out the orders which produced the great results of this battle.

Iraq announced yesterday that the Iraqi Navy thwarted an Iranian naval offensive against the port of Al-'Amiq, destroying nine enemy gunboats and a large Iranian vessel, a ship that served as a command and control platform during this abortive operation.

Israelis Moving Troops in South, Western Al-Biqa'

NC241421 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] According to reports from the south today, 50 Israeli vehicles entered the central sector yesterday and took up positions on hills overlooking the liberated areas. The reports add that the occupation forces have prepared landing strips for helicopters. A Zionist tank battalion has also moved across the eastern sector toward the western Al-Biqa'. Security sources say the occupation forces are massing their troops in a line running from Yatar through Hula and Markaba, to Haddathah, Bra'shit, and Tallusah.

Deployment Detailed

NC251924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The Zionist occupation forces reinforced their positions in the occupied strip today with additional Army units, supported by some 35 tanks and armored vehicles and a mobile operations room. The occupation forces also sent more troops toward Kafra, but groups from the faithful resistance fighters-Amal confronted them, preventing their further advance toward the town.

According to eyewitness reports, the occupation forces have put their troops opposite Kafra on alert. The town was the scene of large-scale Israeli military operations all day, with artillery and medium-caliber machine guns being used.

Israeli Boats Off Tyre

NC242042 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2018 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] According to reports from the south, tension still prevails in the security belt, where Israeli forces are carrying out search operations in retaliation for bomb and Katyusha rocket attacks against them. Meanwhile, Israeli boats are sailing off the coast of Tyre.

UNIFIL on Possible Operation

NC242102 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
2045 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] UNIFIL Commander Brigadier General Gustav Haegglund has not ruled out the possibility of a large-scale Israeli operation north of the security zone. He said UNIFIL is following the situation closely, and noted that there is something strange in the air. After meeting with Amal Movement officials in Qana today, Haegglund said UNIFIL is ready to confront any such operation but, he added, its scope for action is limited. He stated that Israeli officials have been contacted in a bid to avoid friction with UNIFIL.

Shelters Prepared in South

NC250723 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] A state of anticipation prevails in southern Lebanon as a result of the dramatic developments generated by the escalating Israeli threats and military buildup along the contact lines between the liberated and occupied areas. Military attaches in Tel Aviv expect Israel to step up its air strikes against southern villages. They also believe that commando squads will be sent to this area to carry out special missions.

Meanwhile, security measures have been taken in the south. Civil defense squads have been alerted and shelters have been prepared as a precaution against any possible strikes.

Palestinians Vow More Actions

NC251206 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] In a statement to *Reuter* today, Palestinian leaders pledged to continue their military operations against Israel despite Israeli threats and air strikes.

Zayd Wahbah, commander of the Fatah forces in Lebanon, told *Reuter* last night that the war against the Israelis will continue. He added: We intend to carry out additional operations across the Lebanese border. He affirmed: The more Israel escalates its actions against us, the more we will prepare ourselves. Force is the only thing this enemy understands.

Rockets Fired at Nahariyya

NC251019 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] A national resistance group fired two Grad rockets in a dawn attack today on the Israeli settlement of Nahariyya. The missiles scored direct hits, and fire was seen rising from the settlement.

Meanwhile, another resistance group lauched a rocket attack on the Israeli airport of (Al-Bassa), setting fire to its western runway.

Statement Released

NC260643 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] The Islamic Resistance Front issued the following statement this morning: One of our heroic groups fired two Grad rockets at the Zionist settlement of Nahariyya at dawn today, scoring direct hits. A building damaged by the rockets caught fire. Enemy helicopters flew over the area, using flares and heavy machine guns in their search for members of the resistance.

The enemy radio admitted the operation in its morning newscast. It noted that a 2-story structure had been hit. It also claimed that only a woman and child had been killed.

Israeli Intelligence Center Hit

NC251354 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] National resistance men used Grad rockets to shell the intelligence command center of the Israeli occupation forces in the 'Aynata-Bint Jubayl area today. Direct hits were scored and a fire broke out in the southern part of the installation. Ambulances were seen evacuating the injured, and an Israeli helicopter flew a number of the wounded to the occupied territories. The occupation forces immediately searched the zones around the villages of Bint Jubayl and 'Aynata.

In another development, the villages of Habbush, Kafr Rumman, Kafr Tibnit, 'Arab Salim, Jba', Jarju', Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, and Zawtar al-Gharbiyah, as well as the town of Al-Nabatiyah, came under artillery and machine gun fire from positions held by the occupation forces and their agents. One civilian was martyred and another was wounded in the action.

Israel To Back Ja'Ja' Plan

NC270800 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Excerpts] The main worry these days is in the resistance areas following the Zionists' escalating attacks and clear coordination between agents at home and abroad. According to reports received by certain political leaders, hostile preparations are under way to carry out a limited military operation east of Sidon to regain six villages to support the forces of Lahd and Samir Ja'ja'. The Christian inhabitants of these villages left them for Jazzin 2 years ago. Ja'ja' is trying to recover his moral and military prestige by regaining these villages.

According to these reports, 500 fighters of the Ja'ja' forces have been transferred by sea to Haifa. They arrived at agent Lahd's barracks in Marj 'Uyun 3 days ago. They were not sent to Jazzin, as that would have exposed the plan. However, a number of Zionist reconnaissance officers accompanied by Lahd militia and Lebanese Forces officers reconnoitored areas east of the Sidon front on Saturday. Zionist warplanes have photographed this sector on a daily basis.

The reports speak of a detailed plan of operation, prepared at the beginning of this month during the visit of Nadir Sukkar, assistant commander of the Lebanese Forces, to occupied Palestine, where he met with some Zionist commanders, including the new chief of staff. [passage omitted]

According to the plan, the disintegration of the forces deployed in the area and their internal conflicts will permit the success of the action, to be carried out by elements from the Lebanese Forces with limited Israeli support, represented by shelling or commando operations in Al-Zahrani, 'Ayn al-Hulwah, and Sidon.

AL-SHIRA' Reports Iranian National 'Missing'

NC251223 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] In today's edition, the magazine *Al-Shira'* reports that an Iranian citizen, whose job was to run errands for the Iranian Embassy in West Beirut, disappeared last week while trying to buy a number of civilian cars for the embassy that resemble military vehicles. The missing Iranian had been living in the southern suburb [of Beirut] for a long time.

3 Syrian Soldiers Found Dead in Al-Biqa'

NC251313 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] According to reports available to us, the bodies of three regular Syrian Army soldiers were found near the Tamnin crossroads in Al-Biqa' 2 days ago. The same reports note that a bomb exploded near a Syrian intelligence center in Hawsh Shunayd several days ago. Syrian intelligence personnel cordoned off the area and arrested a number of suspects.

Syrian intelligence has accused Hizballah of being behind these actions, which seek to strike a blow at the Syrian presence in Al-Biqa' in retaliation for the Fathallah barracks incident [in which Syrian troops killed some 21 Hizballah members in West Beirut on 24 February]. Syrian intelligence in Al-Biqa' has canceled all permits to carry firearms that were issued to Hizballah officials and members.

Syrians Raid Hizballah Centers

NC260653 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] According to security reports from Al-Biqa', Syrian forces have launched a a large-scale campaign of raids and arrests against Hizballah centers in the area. The Syrians are looking for individuals suspected of involvement in the death of three Syrian soldiers at the Tamnin crossroads 2 days ago.

Syrian Lieutenant Killed in Car Explosion

NC251243 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] According to information from Upper al-Matn, a Syrian military vehicle exploded on the approaches to Salima from the direction of Al-'Urbaniyah at 0400 today. The blast left a Syrian lieutenant dead and a number of soldiers wounded.

60 Bombing Suspects Arrested in West Beirut

NC261310 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] According to a security source, Lebanese and Syrian security services have arrested a total of 60 people suspected of involvement in bombings in West Beirut. The source said those detained were members of several networks financed by non-

Lebanese sources. A leader of one of these networks has admitted receiving a check for $340,000. Others have said they received various sums of money in return for undertaking bombing operations. They have also confessed to the groups responsible for their financing.

Karami Urges President To Recover State Power

NC261554 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami in Tripoli on 26 April — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] We have accepted the invitation by the Chamber of Deputies speaker to a ministerial meeting. The atmosphere during our meeting as ministers was positive, giving rise to hope for good results. Solutions were proposed, which were then outlined in a statement which his excellency the speaker of the chamber of deputies delivered himself. All of you are aware of the reactions to the decisions made at this meeting. They are indicative of the fear of giving up institutions, foremost of which is the port of Beirut; of opening the crossing points; and of allowing the airport to resume operations. All these constitute a source of illegitimate revenue to finance those who act against the interests of the people. We must not be surprised by the clamor and flagrant actions, which cannot deceive anyone in this country. [passage omitted]

I have said, and I repeat on this occasion, that I am surprised by the position of the president of the republic, who has remained silent. This silence is tantamount to acceptance of this rejected state of affairs; that is, transgression against the state institutions, which have been usurped. May I ask why this silence exists? Is not the president, as they claim, the one with primary responsibility for everything pertaining to the interests of this state and homeland? Everything we complain of is most prominent in his areas, and he should, therefore, be primarily responsible for what happens there. We call on him, with love and sincerity, to help in returning the institutions, which were seized by unjust and hostile means, to the legitimate state. I have said, and I repeat today, that the only solution lies in the establishment of a just state capable of shouldering its responsibilities. This must start by the state regaining all that belongs to it and by the usurpers giving up all they have taken from the state. The president, and I admit it, is the one primarily responsible for this state. May I call on him to do something, just as we are doing something? It is unjust, unfair, and untruthful for us to be accused of being solely responsible for all the harmful results.

They [not further identified] were told that the resignation or removal of the government could create a constitutional vacuum. They said: What is this constitutional vacuum, and what is its value regarding the point we have reached? I have said, and I repeat again and again, that the government is the final link for the continuation of legitimacy and the state. I think — and I also know — that what they want is to break this thread and undermine this link to establish their statelet and canton. They are looking for a chance to perpetuate this division, but we will continue to resist and reject it. We will continue to work to return Lebanon to what it was before, to liberate its south, to promote its unity, and to safeguard its independence and sovereignty. [passage omitted]

I announce to the Lebanese people that relief is coming, despite the haughtiness of the arrogant and despite the betrayal of the plotters. We will remain steadfast; we will work to defend this country, as well as to liberate it and perpetuate its freedom and sovereignty.

Sham‘un Responds to Karami

NC261911 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] In reaction to Prime Minister Rashid Karami's statement today, former President Camille Sham‘un said in a radio interview that the Syrian presence is a danger to Lebanon's sovereignty. Had it not been for this, Sham‘un stated, there would have been no danger and the war would not have broken out in the first place.

In addition, Sham‘un reiterated that legitimacy cannot exist in the absence of constitutional procedures and that the Constitution stipulates that a cabinet should exist. If Karami really wants to apply legitimacy, he said, he must respect the terms of the Constitution and attend cabinet meetings.

Alluding to Karami's remarks regarding the president's silence over the usurpation of ports in East Beirut, Sham‘un said: When the president speaks, they say he violates the Constitution; if he does not, they ask why he is silent.

Hizballah Paper Comments on PNC Resolutions

NC262006 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1945 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] The magazine *Al-'Ahd*, which is published by Hizballah, believes that the PNC resolutions will hurt Syrian interests and serve as a provocation to them. In addition, the magazine states that PFLP leader George Habash's return to the PLO will affect Palestinian-Syrian relations, and that Lebanon will suffer some of the consequences. *Al-'Ahd* says the reunification of the Palestinians will primarily serve the Soviet Union's interests in the region.

Al-Asad Returns From Visit to Soviet Union

JN251804 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus from Moscow this evening after a 3-day official and friendly visit to the Soviet Union. During his stay, he held very important talks with CPSU Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev. The discussions lasted 7 and 1/2 hours and covered the most important international issues as well as the situation and developments in the region. He also held 2 and 1/2 hours of talks with Soviet President Andrey Gromyko.

Foreign, Defense Ministers Remain in Moscow

LD252040 Kuwait KUNA in English 1948 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow, April 25 (KUNA) — Stay of Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Defence Minister Mustafa Talas in Moscow was prolonged for few more days, a well-informed Arab diplomat told KUNA here Saturday.

The diplomat pointed out that the two Syrian ministers are to follow up the official Syrian-Soviet talks which took place today and Friday in Moscow between President al-Asad and Soviet leadership.

The two ministers, according to the diplomat, are to hold further talks with their Soviet counterparts relating to the issues that were discussed during President al-Asad's visit to Moscow which ended earlier today.

The two Syrian ministers arrived here last Thursday accompanying President al-Asad in his official state visit to the Soviet Union.

Press Views Visit

JN240728 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Press review]

[Text] Regarding President al-Asad's trip to Moscow, the newspaper *Tishrin* writes: When the USSR — leaders, people, organizations, and press — praise Syria's great role, the USSR is doing more than just paying lip service. It is consecrating the bright fact that the struggle Syria is waging with all its strength and resources has kept the Arab homeland from sinking into the morass of the Zionist-U.S. conspiracy and has prevented the extension of imperialist hegemony to all countries in the region. U.S. imperialist-Zionist hegemony threatens the world liberation movement as well as the Arab liberation movement. Syria makes a special and distinguished contribution to foiling the aggressive schemes of the imperialists and Zionists.

Our Soviet friends, who fully realize the intrigues of imperialists and Zionists, and who also appreciate Syria's great role and the burdens it entails, will not hesitate to extend every form of aid and support to Syria. They have frequently expressed their backing. President al-Asad's trip will be an appropriate opportunity to review current problems and issues, as well as the scope for cooperation and promotion of relations. As expected, this visit will have great results serving the struggle of Syria and the Arab nation and bolstering cohesion with the international liberation movement.

Under the headline "The Damascus-Moscow Road," *Tishrin* also notes: President al-Asad's official friendly visit to the USSR is of extraordinary importance for many reasons regarding the ever-increasing promotion of strong friendly ties between Syria and the Soviet Union. These are relations based on equality and mutual benefit. The most important reason for the visit relates to the nature of the urgent tasks facing our two countries today. These tasks are dictated by the latest developments, particularly those in the Arab world. The region's fate in the foreseeable future depends on the resolution of these developments.

Tishrin concludes: The high level of revolutionary vigilance characterizing struggler Al-Asad's protection of the rules governing collective Arab action qualifies him to be the Arab responsible for the interest of the nation and the homeland. In view of this responsibility, Syria plays a key role in the region's affairs and no one can ignore it. Today Syria adds a new brick to the Damascus- Moscow front which is a high, solid building.

Under the headline "Principled Relations of Syrian-Soviet Friendship," *Al-Ba'th* says: Syrian-Soviet relations of friendship and cooperation are a developed and positive model of the common interests between our Arab people and the friendly peoples of the USSR. These ties reaffirm that the relationship between Damascus — which resolutely confronts all plots and attacks against the Arab presence — and Moscow, which leads the world movement for peace and progress — constitutes one of the firm axes of the policies of both friendly states. Moreover, these relations open wide vistas for achieving the objectives of the world's militant peoples who aspire to justice, peace, and equity and to the removal of all hotbeds of tension, aggression, racism, and Zionism around the globe.

Under the headline "An Important Visit in the March of Friendship and Cooperation," *Al-Thawrah* writes: The USSR's warm and deep welcome of President al-Asad's visit, as well as the great attention the Soviet leadership is paying to this trip, clearly show a great sense of appreciation for President al-Asad's prominent leading role. They also reflect a deep appreciation of President al-Asad's achievements, not only in the construction of a modern Syria, a fortress of freedom, progress, and socialism, but also his leadership of both the Arab national liberation movement and the struggle of its nationalist and progressive masses and forces against the aggressive, expansionist policies of imperialism and Zionism.

'Exceptional Importance' Noted

JN250655 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0505 GMT 25 Apr 87

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Results of Al-Asad's Visit Constitute Support for Arab Liberation Struggle," *Al-Thawrah* says: The atmosphere of cordiality and friendship and the similarity of views on the issues discussed by President Hafiz al-Asad and Soviet leader Gorbachev are a sincere expression of the firm and developing relations of friendship and cooperation between two friendly countries, Syria and the USSR.

These ties, whose solid foundation was established by the meetings, contacts, and consultations between President al-Asad and the Soviet leaders, are considered an example to be followed in international relations. The development and growth of these bonds constitute real support for peace, security, the fight waged by national liberation movements, and struggling peoples in the region and the world. After all, Syria and the USSR base their joint struggle on firm and principled stands against imperialist, Zionist, and racist forces of aggression and expansion.

Al-Thawrah continues: When Soviet leader Gorbachev affirms the USSR's great appreciation for the role played by Syria and President al-Asad, and when he reiterates the USSR's backing of Syria and its concern to reinforce Syria's defensive capabilities in its brave confrontation of imperialist and Zionist threats and challenges, he also affirms the USSR's support for the Arab liberation struggle and for just Arab causes, which Syria is defending and for which it is preparing all requirements for their victory. In its distinguished militant role and in its firm and principled positions, Syria today is considered a bastion of freedom, a base for the national Arab liberation movement, and a guarantee for progress and socialism.

Al-Thawrah concludes: Hence, President Hafiz al-Asad'strip to the USSR and his successful, constructive, and fruitful talks with Soviet leader Gorbachev will benefit cooperation and friendship between the two countries in all fields. These discussions are also a great achievement in support of the peoples' struggles and national liberation movements in the region and the world.

This gives the visit exceptional importance in terms of its timing, results, and effects and in terms of supporting the Arab liberation struggle against imperialist-Zionist aggression. It is similarly significant in making available everything necessary to deter aggression and impose a just peace that liberates land and regains rights.

Papers Cite Trip's Results

JN260948 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Results of Leader President al-Asad's Visit are Nationalist and Pan-Arab Accomplishments," *Al-Thawrah* writes: The international parties that followed the official and cordial visit of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad to the Soviet Union with great interest are unanimous on the exceptional importance of this visit and also on the positive results yielded by this visit. Observers base their evaluation of the results of this trip on a host of assumptions and considerations, foremost of which are the great importance which the Soviets attach to the visit and their deep appreciation of His Excellency President Hafiz al- Asad. This is the result of his leading role and for the important explanations he put forward during his lengthy talks with Soviet leader Gorbachev. These observers also rest their evaluation on the fact that the two sides held identical views on all the issues discussed, be they those concerning the international situation in general or conditions in the Middle East in particular.

The newspaper adds: These talks have emphasized the strength and solidity of Syrian-Soviet relations and their continued development in the interest of the two countries and peoples. This is bound to have an effect on forthcoming developments in the Middle East. The talks made it clear that the two leaders, Al-Asad and Gorbachev, have reiterated their countries' rejection of separate deals as well as their condemnation of the imperialist campaigns of threats, blackmail, and sabotage and the exercise of state terrorism, and economic embargoes. The two leaders held identical views on what must be done to handle the current situation in the Middle East and establish a just peace in the area.

Al-Thawrah adds: From this perspective, we can discern the importance of the Soviet Union's reiteration of its continued readiness to maintain Syria's defense capabilities at an appropriate level and of its support for Syria's courageous confrontation of imperialist-Israeli threats and challenges. This reaffirmation clearly indicates that U.S. imperialist attempts to monopolize influence in the region and impose U.S. hegemony on it are doomed to failure and that Syria is not alone in this confrontation. Syria relies on a solid base formed by its people and their unlimited willingness to sacrifice, the support of the Arab masses, and the support and backing provided by the forces of freedom and progress in the world, headed by the friendly Soviet Union.

Hence, we can emphasize that the visit of leader Al- Asad, in addition to the important results of enhancing and developing bilateral cooperation in all areas, has also highlighted the firm and strong Soviet support for the Arab liberation struggle and the Arab nation's central cause. His trip fortified this cause against the danger of liquidation and also against the imperialist and Zionist schemes and intrigues hatched against it designed to undermine the entire Arab existence.

Concluding, *Al-Thawrah* says: Therefore, the visit of leader Al-Asad to the Soviet Union can be considered both a nationalist and a pan-Arab accomplishment.

Al-Ba'th writes on the same topic, noting: Great attention has been given to leader Al-Asad's visit to Moscow. Observers and the international public have followed the visit closely over the past few days, during which lengthy and extremely important talks were held. The significance attached to leader Al-Asad's visit arose from the importance of the agenda of talks and also from Syria's prominent position under the historic leadership of that great Arab leader, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad. The great tribute paid by Moscow to the militant history of leader Al-Asad and to his prominent leading role in the national, pan-Arab, and international spheres adds new dimensions to the historic trip. These dimensions have emphasized that the problems of the Middle East in particular and international issues in general must be dealt with.

Hence, the identical views held by both sides on all issues, which were discussed in a cordial atmosphere, emphasize a host of facts, foremost of which is that the principled ties binding the two friendly countries and peoples are relations that respond to vital interests and also to the objectives sought by all peoples who strive to establish right, justice, peace, and a decent life.

For its part, *Tishrin* adds: Syria is working for regional peace, and is also seeking to acquire the capabilities that will enable it to confront the schemes and ambitions of its enemies, who have made aggression and expansionism tenets of state policy, and treachery and terrorism standing courses of action. Syria is still working to achieve strategic parity with the enemy in all areas, relying on its own resources and the support of friends. There is no doubt that the visit of leader Al-Asad to the Soviet Union will contribute to the work for peace and also to the efforts to enhance Syria's defensive capability to help it achieve a military strategic parity to strongly confront the enemies of peace. There can be no peace without a balance of power. The weak never make peace, they only surrender.

Qaddah Receives Soviet Friendship Delegation

JN241511 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Damascus — Comrade Dr Sulayman Qaddah, assistant secretary of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, met this morning with a delegation from the USSR-Syria Friendship Society headed by Comrade Roza Bazarova, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium member, along with Comrade Dr Wahib Tannus, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and chairman of the Syrian-USSR Friendship Society.

During the meeting, aspects of relations between the two parties and peoples in the two friendly states were reviewed, as were the roles that friendship societies in both countries can play to enhance these ties in popular and mass organizations. Comrade Qaddah referred to the eagerness of our party and country to develop and bolster these relations and emphasized the special importance of the visit to the USSR by comrade leader Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic. He also referred to the enhancement and consolidation of friendly bilateral relations that may result from the president's talks and consultations with Soviet officials.

Comrade Qaddah paid tribute to the noble Soviet stand in support of our country's steadfastrness on the political, economic, and military levels and in support of Arab causes.

Comrade Bazarova emphasized her country's support for the Arab issue and hailed our country's heroic steadfastness in the face of imperialist intrigues and schemes and its opposition to separate deals and solutions that U.S. imperialism and world Zionism seek to impose on the Arab region.

Delegations Arrive for AAPSO Symposium

JN241635 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Damascus — Under the sponsorship of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, the international symposium, which will be held by AAPSO and the Solidarity Committee in Syria, will open tomorrow. The international symposium will be devoted to expressing solidarity with the Syrian Arab people's struggle in the face of Zionist-imperialist aggression, and will also mark the 70th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution.

The Afro-Asian solidarity delegations are still arriving in Damascus to participate in this symposium. The Soviet group headed by Comrade Fikryat Tabeyev, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries, arrived today. The Ethiopian, Philippine, Vietnamese, Pakistani, Afghan, Ghanaian, Tanzanian, Mozambican, and Congolese delegations are now in Damascus as well.

Qaddah Meets Officials

JN250611 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary general of the Ba'th Party, today received Nuri 'Abd al-Razzaq, secretary general of AAPSO, and Dr Murad Ghalib, member of the AAPSO Presidium. The meeting was also attended by Comrade Ahmad al-As'ad, deputy chairman of the Syrian AAPSO committee.

During the meeting, a review was made of the AAPSO organization and its preparations to convene an international symposium to celebrate the glorious Great October Socialist Revolution's 70th anniversary and its solidarity with our country's struggle.

Comrade Qaddah explained to the two guests the latest Arab developments and Syria's stand under the Ba'th Party and its Secretary General Comrade Hafiz al-Asad in facing imperialist and Zionist challenges to control the Arab region and promote the policy of expansion and occupation of Arab territories by the Israeli enemy. He stressed our country's policy of opposing separate solutions and deals, which the enemy is trying to impose on the region with the cooperation of certain Arab regimes.

For their part, Comrade Nuri 'Abd al-Razza and Dr Murad Ghalib voiced AAPSO's support for Syria's firm struggle against imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots.

The comrade assistant regional secretary also received Comrade Fikryat Tabeyev, CPSU Central Committee member, deputy premier of the RSFSR, and head of the Soviet delegation, and the members of his delegation to the international symposium. They examined preparations for the symposium and discussed the latest developments in the Arab world.

Comrade Tabeyev affirmed the USSR's support for Syria's principled stand under the leadership of our party and its secretary general, Hafiz al-Asad, in facing the aggressive provocations of U.S. imperialism and the racist Zionist entity.

AAPSO Seminar Opens

JN251505 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the republic, the international seminar held by AAPSO and the Syrian Solidarity Committee opened today. The seminar will be devoted to celebrating the 70th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution and solidarity with the struggle of the Syrian Arab people.

Brother Comrade Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary of the Ba'th Party, stood in for the president. Participating in the seminar are People's Assembly Speaker Comrade Mahmud al-Zu'bi, comrade members of the party's regional command, some members of the central command of the Progressive National Front, and a number of ministers. The opening of the seminar was also attended by AAPSO Secretary General Comrade Nuri 'Abd al-Razzaq and his delegation, Vasos Lissaridhis, speaker of the Cypriot legislature, the comrade secretaries and members of the party branch commands in Damascus, the Damascus countryside, Al-Qunaytirah, and Damascus University, the comrade chairmen of the popular organizations and trade unions in Syria, the comrade members of the executive office of AAPSO in Syria, the delegations taking part in the seminar, representatives of progressive parties, ambassadors of the socialist countries in Damascus, and a large number of guests.

The seminar began with a minute of silence for the souls of the martyrs of freedom in the world. The Syrian national anthem was played. Comrade Qaddah then read President Hafiz al-Asad's message to the seminar.

'Sources' Say Arens Sent To Forestall Shultz Visit

TA261843 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Minister Moshe Arens apparently tried to prevent a visit by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Israel and the other countries in the region during a meeting of the two in Washington on Friday evening. Our correspondent there, Nisim Mish'al, learned this from reliable sources.

Our correspondent adds that senior U.S. State Department officials assessed that there are increased chances that the parties to the Middle East conflict will reach an agreement on the continuation of the political process in the wake of Watt Cluverius' visit. [passage omitted]

In Jerusalem, Minister Arens' mission to the United States has succeeded and the prime minister's arguments against the international conference have been well received by the U.S. secretary of state. Our political correspondent has learned this from senior officials in the Prime Minister's Office this evening. It is assessed in the Prime Minister's Office that the United States will not adopt a positive position on the international conference issue to prevent a government crisis in Israel and to avoid harming the economic stability.

In contrast, it is assessed in the office of Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres that Mr Shamir decided to send Minister Arens to Washington since he realized that the United States had moved closer to the position he advocates on the international conference idea. [passage omitted]

Arens Story on Shultz Denied

TA270807 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
27 Apr 87 pp 1, 8

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz continues to oppose the idea of an international Middle East peace conference, sources in the Prime Minister's Office said last night following a meeting in the U.S. between Shultz and Minister without-portfolio Moshe Arens at the weekend.

However, the sources added, Shultz said that the U.S. is willing to explore the possibility of convening such a conference in view of Jordan's insistence that the way to direct Israel-Arab talks lies through an international conference.

The sources flatly denied an Israel Television report last night that Arens had been abruptly sent to the U.S. by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, specifically in order to head off a visit to the Middle East by Shultz. "We know nothing about the visit," said the sources.

At a meeting yesterday afternoon with the American Council on Foreign Relations, Shamir praised Jordan's efforts to prevent terrorist infiltration and arms smuggling across the Jordan River.

Shamir said that he wants Israeli-Jordanian relations to be "formalized" through a process of direct negotiations. "Unfortunately," he told the visiting delegation of leading U.S. businessmen and public figures, "the King (Husayn) is reluctant to come to the conference table alone."

Arens' trip to the U.S. was not even mentioned at yesterday's weekly cabinet session.

According to one source, however, Foreign Minister Peres spoke briefly with Shamir just before the meeting and protested that Arens used "false pretences" to win cabinet permission to travel.

Ministers decided not to stir up a controversy yesterday because they deemed it inappropriate to risk a row on Martyrs and Heroes Memorial Day.

Peres Protests Arens' Trip

TA261114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres delivered a sharp protest to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir about the way the decision was made to send Minister Moshe Arens to Washington. Mr Arens was instructed, among other things, to explain the prime minister's opposition to an international conference. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami has learned that Mr Shamir and Mr Peres met for a private talk before the cabinet session this morning. Mr Peres protested that he was told that Mr Arens was going on a lecture tour on behalf of Israel Bonds, and that later he was surprised to hear that Mr Arens was to meet with Secretary of State Shultz.

Paris Radio Interviews Shamir Before France Tour

LD241427 Paris Domestic Service in French
1100 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Yitzhak Shamir will arrive in Paris on an official visit Monday [27 April]. This is his first visit to France since he succeeded Shim'on Peres at the head of the Israeli Government. On the occasion of this visit, Yitzhak Shamir has granted an exclusive interview to French radio with our permanent correspondent in Israel, Claude Mazaud, in which he begins by assessing relations between the two countries:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] Relations between Israel and France are very good and friendly. We maintain a permanent dialogue on many common problems, on problems of international politics. This does not mean that there are no differences of opinion between us friendly countries on the international conference which is being proposed. I oppose this conference because I do not think that such a conference will bring peace in our region. I do not know of any international conference in the past that has brought peace in any region of the world. I think that peace can be reached and must be reached in the Middle East, but the real path to peace is one of direct negotiations between us and our neighbors. To achieve peace, we do not need high-powered foreign factors [facteur], as are being proposed to us. We must have a very serious dialogue with all our neighbors, one by one, or with a group of neighbors, to settle differences. That is the best way.

[Mazaud] Mr Prime Minister, when you speak of direct contacts with your neighbors — Jordan comes to mind — then you must also have interlocutors among, shall we say, the Arabs of the occupied territories, because you refuse to have absolutely any contact with the leaders of the PLO.

[Shamir] Of course, Jordan is a country with which we have a very long border and many common interests. There must be direct negotiations with Jordan. Our national union government has proposed to Jordan negotiations without preconditions. I believe that this is a very reasonable proposal. Unfortunately, Jordan has not given a positive response thus far. As far as the Palestinian Arab population is concerned, we are ready to talk to these people, to their representatives, if this is possible in a common delegation with Jordan, that is to say a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. As for me, I believe that the best basis for solving Palestinian problems is the Camp David accords, which were accepted 8 years ago by us and Egypt. On this basis we can begin negotiations and, in my view, arrive by gradual steps at a solution we all want.

[Mazaud] You spoke just of a possible Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. But, as you know, in Algiers the Palestinians have abrogated the Amman accord. What is your interpretation of the current session in Algiers?

[Shamir] In Algiers we see signs of terrorism, Arab terrorism; we hear the voice of terrorists, of the people who do not want peace with us, who do not accept our presence in this region. Therefore, (?one cannot) talk of peace with groups or organizations that are opposed to peace. For this reason, we want to talk with Palestinian Arabs who are ready to renounce violence and terrorism. I think there are many of them, even if they do not yet have the courage to say so openly. So I think that many, many Palestinian Arabs today understand that the path of terrorism and violence leads nowhere, that the only path that can lead to positive results is that of negotiations. [end recording]

Shamir Assesses Obstacles to Peace With Jordan

TA241315 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says he sees no obstacle or special problems in promoting peace with Jordan, since that country objects to the PLO just as strongly as Israel. We only need to find a formula that would institutionalize relations between us.

The prime minister said this in a meeting with the leader of the Netherlands Labor Party, Wim Kok, who is visiting Israel. He again emphasized that an international conference would not make peace with Jordan any easier, but would merely make the issue more complicated and make the possibility of reaching direct negotiations more difficult to attain.

Rabin Discusses PNC Deliberations, Territories

TA261740 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Interview in Hebrew with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Dani Levi; place and date not given — videotaped]

[Text] [Levi] Mr Defense Minister, where is the PLO heading, in your opinion, now that the PNC deliberations have ended?

[Rabin] I think that what took place in Algeria exposed the true face of the PLO after a long period in which it had tried to cover up its positions and its terrorist activity. It seems to me that today, more than ever before, it is clear that the PLO was and continues to be one of the major obstacles on the road to peace. Look at the announcement on the cancellation of the Amman accord — not that I was impressed by this accord either, but it reflected pragmatism, as it were; the worsening of relations with Egypt; the renewed association with George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah, whose positions are very radical. Therefore, developments at the PNC session allow the truth to surface more easily. The true face of the PLO, as an obstacle to peace, as a terrorist organization, was expressed beyond any doubt.

[Levi] What impact will this have on the political process, in your opinion?

[Rabin] I never believed or opted for negotiations with the PLO, since it was clear to me that the very essence of its existence and its outlook run counter to the existence of the State of Israel. Its terrorist activity only demonstrated this. Therefore, I hope that Egypt as well as Jordan will be cured of the slim chances they gave to the PLO's participation in the peace process. Egypt in the past proved that it was capable of embarking on the road to peace, even on its own, and I hope Jordan will do the same.

[Levi] Do you assess that Jordan will be able to overcome the current difficulties and persist in its readiness to go to an international conference?

[Rabin] I hope so. The future will tell. One should remember that it takes two to make peace. Israel cannot impose peace on Jordan, nor can Jordan impose peace on Israel. Only when the two countries realize that the correct way of life they should establish between them is peace, enabling Palestinians who are not PLO members to partake in it, will it be possible to create the conditions that will lead to a significant peace process.

[Levi] Mr Minister, is there a connection, perhaps a meaningful one, between the declaration you made on willingness for significant compromise in Judaea and Samaria, and the peace process, the international conference idea?

[Rabin] Look, as for the status of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza territories, we are talking about decisions from all the Israeli governments for the last 20 years, which have not extended Israeli law to the territories. As a result, the territories are run by military authorities, and their destiny will be determined in the framework of peace negotiations. In the present national unity government we have two political blocs, one advocating the greater Israel concept, and the other — to which I belong —

believing in the need to reach peace, to preserve the Jewishness of the State of Israel, to maintain the united status of its capital, Jerusalem, and to secure defendable borders. This latter bloc is prepared for a territorial compromise, of course. The problem, at this stage, is to begin negotiations, to see if it is at all possible to start negotiations, what conditions will Jordan and the Palestinians agree to in moving into an era of peace or a transitional period preceding this era, as was the case in Camp David, where agreement was reached on autonomy.

[Levi] Will you recommend relocating or uprooting settlements if it becomes absolutely necessary in the course of negotiations?

[Rabin] In principle I am against the uprooting of settlements. It seems to me, however, that we should not put the cart before the horse. We have not started negotiations yet. We have not yet reached an agreement in the government. Therefore, on this matter of uprooting settlements, now as well as at election time — we do not want to see a Jewish settlement uprooted.

[Levi] Mr Minister, the Likud has recently launched an offensive against the Alignment, with the declaration you made serving as the foundation for this. How do you characterize developments on this issue? Has the campaign over the future of Judaea and Samaria begun in full force?

[Rabin] To the best of my knowledge, I did not say anything new. Part of what I said is even laid down in the government's basic guidelines. It is clearly stated in these guidelines that no change will occur in the status of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. So there is nothing new about this. It is no secret that there are disagreements on the nature of the permanent solution, although the national unity government claims, and justly so, that as long as we do not have a partner for negotiations. [sentence as heard] The national unity government did great things; it is doubtful whether these achievements could have been reached without unity between the two large political blocs. Why are they attacking me? You should address this question to them, not me.

[Levi] Has the time not come to make a decision, and soon, on the future of Judaea and Samaria, now that the struggle over this issue was recently shifted to the United States?

[Rabin] No, I think I should add something. The Arab world, the Arab leaders and people should know one thing: They will achieve nothing through war and terror. A war should be prevented with the help of a strong IDF, and a deadly war should be waged against terror both from Lebanon and the territories. If they are not fully aware of this they will not be prepared for peace negotiations. It is only when we reach these negotiations that there will be room for discussing the future of the territories. Today, the argument among ourselves is irrelevant since peace should be made with the Arab country to the east of us, Jordan, and with a delegation of Palestinians, from the territories primarily, which will join the Jordanian delegation.

[Levi] Mr Minister, with the conclusion of the PNC meeting, do you assess that this will translate into continued anti-Israeli terrorist actions in Lebanon and in the territories?

[Rabin] On the eve of the PNC session and during it — and I do not see any signs for change — the guidelines of 'Arafat and the others point to efforts to increase disturbances and terrorist actions both from Lebanon and from within the territories. This is a terrorist organization first and above all, and a terrorist organization's existence lies in its action. Therefore, we should be prepared to fight off and foil all terrorist acts by the terrorist PLO.

[Levi] Will Israel return to a scorched earth policy in southern Lebanon as a response to the Katyushas?

[Rabin] In reference to southern Lebanon we should distinguish between the Shi'ites, Amal, and Hizballah, but Amal first and foremost, which has the security zone as its target, and the Palestinian terrorist organizations, led by 'Arafat from Sidon, that are trying to attack targets in Israel, either through the firing of Katyushas or through infiltration. We should fight to hurt the PLO terrorists, while, at the same time, avoid provoking the Shi'ites into an overall confrontation, since, let me repeat, if there is no quiet on this side of the border there will be no normal life on the other side either.

[Levi] Mr Minister, do you see Syria's hand in the movement of terrorists southward in Lebanon and in the increased number of terrorist acts? Are the Syrians in Lebanon behind this?

[Rabin] Syria has encouraged and is encouraging anti-Israeli activity by those Lebanese and Palestinian elements close to it. I still do not see a large-scale southward movement by terrorists. A few, maybe more than a few, have gone south. However, in my opinion, the main problem lies in the parameters in which this terrorism has been reflected to date.

Shamir's Office Denies Weizman PLO Talks Claim

TA260633 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] For the past 2 and 1/2 years Israel has been holding indirect negotiations with the PLO. This was said yesterday by Minister 'Ezer Weizman, who added that these negotiations are being held through Egypt. The Prime Minister's Office reacted with the comment that there have never been, nor will there ever be, negotiations with this murderous organization. Our party affairs correspondent Yaron Deqel reports:

[Begin recording] For the past 2 and 1/2 years we have been holding indirect negotiations with the PLO through Egypt. Minister 'Ezer Weizman told this to members of the Labor Party Mashov circle, a group of doves within the party. Weizman says that in the final analysis, the Palestinian representation to negotiations will have to be acceptable to Husayn, Mubarak, and also to those who met in Algiers — that is, the PLO. Without their agreement nothing will happen, according to Minister Weizman, who reiterated his outspoken position that the government must be disbanded for the sake of peace.

The Prime Minister's Office reacted to these remarks by saying that there have never been, are not, nor will there ever be negotiations — either direct or indirect — with the PLO. People in the Prime Minister's Office said that Minister Weizman may be in touch with the murderous organization, but he is acting without the government's knowledge.

Labor and Social Welfare Minister Moshe Qatzav reacted by saying that if Weizman's comments about indirect negotiations with the PLO are true, this proves that action is being taken behind the government's back. Qatzav said that Labor Party ministers are also against negotiations with the PLO, because such negotiations concern the establishment of a Palestinian state.

The Labor Party Mashov circle yesterday decided to ask for a special session of the Labor Party Center to discuss the dissolution of the national unity government. [end recording]

Weizman Responds to 'Arafat on Proposed Meeting

TA270513 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Apr 87 p 1

[Report by Gay Bekhor, Pe'erli Shahar, and Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Yesterday PLO head Yasir 'Arafat declared that he was prepared to respond to Minister 'Ezer Weizman's call and meet with him at the United Nations. In the interview, which was broadcast by Radio Monte Carlo, 'Arafat said: "Why should I not meet with Weizman at the United Nations? After all, there are representatives from around the world there."

This is the first time 'Arafat has publicly announced his willingness to meet with an Israeli minister. Last night 'Ezer Weizman told *Hadashot* he would agree to meet with the PLO leader at UN Headquarters in New York, or anywhere else. "'Arafat is an enemy and it is with the enemy that we make peace," Weizman said. "I am prepared to meet with him on condition that he announce his acceptance of 242 and 338 and declare a halt to terrorism. 'Arafat knows this. If he wants the meeting to be at the United Nations, let it be at the United Nations — if in Algiers, let it be in Algiers; the place is unimportant."

Shamir Orders Questioning of Nir on Iran Role

TA241343 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 24 Apr 87 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Shamir has instructed Reserve Major General Refa'el Vardi, who coordinates activity in connection with the investigation of the Iran arms affair, to interrogate 'Amiram Nir on the specifics of his mysterious meeting with arms dealers Ghorbanifar and Khashoggi in Geneva.

Senior politicians suspect Nir of trying to coordinate his story with these two arms dealers while on his Geneva junket, which was unapproved. Nir firmly denies this. Shamir is furious with Nir, and ever since the affair broke, he has virtually frozen Nir's operations as antiterrorism adviser.

Nir has recently undergone lengthy questioning by Vardi for his role in the Iran affair, touching on his special ties with Oliver North and with Ghorbanifar. This was done as part of the preparation of the Israeli report. Early next week, Israel will pass on to the United States the report on its role in the Iran affair. The report addresses the financial aspects of the affair and Israel's involvement in its initial stages.

Report Sent to U.S.

TA270441 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Israel last night sent to the U.S. Senate committee the first report on its role in the transfer of arms to Iran. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the report documents the movement of money and was drawn up from the testimonies of the Israelis involved in the affair. The steering committee is now preparing another report, which will contain details of stages connected to the affair, also collected from the testimonies of Nimrodi, Schwimmer, Kimche, and Nir.

Our correspondent in Washington also reports that for several days now, Israel has been holding contacts with the heads of the congressional inquiry committees to ensure that the contents of the two reports be privileged, so that in the future they will not be used to prosecute the Israelis involved in the affair.

Cabinet Ends Session; Ignores Summit, West Bank

TA261026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] The cabinet ended its weekly session a short while ago without discussing the two issues currently at the center of controversy: an international conference on the Middle East, and Defense Minister Rabin's statement on the future of the West Bank. On the line from the Prime Minister's Office, Steve Weizman:

No mention of Defense Minister Rabin's remarks on settlements; no mention of the separate and opposing missions to Washington of Moshe Arens and Rafi Edri; no mention of the continuing wrangle over the international peace conference. As Economics Minister Gad Ya'aqobi told reporters, nothing that was expected was discussed.

The issues that were dealt with were the questions of students fees and extending a railway southward to Elat. On the latter issue, the government decided to go ahead with the project. The students, however, will have to wait for a decision on their problem. The government decided that it, rather than the ministerial committee studying the matter, will determine fee levels. They did not, however, decide when.

Former Gaza Mayor Criticizes PNC Decisions

TA261725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Former Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa today condemned the decisions of the PNC to abrogate the Jordan-PLO accord and to cut ties with the Egyptian leadership.

In an interview with reporter Steve Rodan, Al-Shawwa, one of the major figures in the territories, called the step a joke and said they represent a minority dictatorship within the PLO.

[Begin recording][Al-Shawwa] I think they have committed a big mistake in taking such a resolution, because they are supporting the minority in the Egyptian Parliament. Egypt just had its election and the present government won an overwhelming majority. To announce that we are going to support the minority against the majority is a great blunder and I think they have committed a great mistake in taking such a decision.

[Rodan] Let me ask you now about the PNC decision to abrogate the Jordan-PLO agreement.

[Al-Shawwa] It is in the power of nobody to abrogate such an agreement because it really expresses the present situation that exists between the people living in West Jordan and East Jordan. They are one people. Part of them are living on the Eastern side of the Jordan river; the others are living on the Western side. These are facts. It sounds like a joke, when someone comes and says, well, we don't want to have anything to do with Jordan. There are over 2 million Palestinians living east of the Jordan. How can we think of abrogating such an agreement?

[Rodan] Why have the Palestinians been so quiet the last week? Are they scared to speak out?

[Al-Shawwa] They are definitely scared to speak out. This is their work. I think the last stand taken by the PNC is going to shake them, because it has meant nothing to them. They have been waiting for some decision that may deliver them from the conditions under which they live. Now, with the decisions already announced, they have been, they feel that they have been let down and no true helpful decision has been taken. [end recording]

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Officials, PLO Leaders
LD261618 Algiers APS in English 1349 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Algiers, 26/4/87 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid audienced Sunday here Finance Minister, Abdelaziz Khellef, who briefed him on the visit he made to France at the invitation of his French counterpart.

The president of the republic also received the newly elected Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) which is chaired by Yasir 'Arafat.

Finally, the head of state audienced Boualem Benhamouda, member of the FLN party Political Bureau, director of the National Center of Strategic Global Studies, who briefed him on the mission he made to Pyongyang, where he handed a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to President Kim Il-song.

LIBYA

Resumption of Iraqi Ties Reportedly 'Imminent'
LD240932 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0743 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Apr (KUNA) *Al-Watan* revealed here today that the resumption of Libyan-Iraqi relations is imminent, and that contacts between the two Arab countries have made substantial progress toward clearing the way for high-level meetings.

Al-Watan quoted well-informed diplomatic sources as saying that Libyan Foreign Minister Jadallah 'Azzuz Talhi will visit Baghdad during the month of Ramadan. From there he will visit Tehran in an attempt to halt the Iraq-Iran war.

It added that the expected visit to Tehran by 'Azzuz was prepared through obvious contacts between Tripoli and Tehran designed to examine the possibility of ending the war.

The newspaper indicated its sources said that Libya, following contacts with Iraq and other Arab parties, believes that Iraqi-Libyan relations can be brought back to their good and normal state, while preserving its close ties to Iran. Libya hopes to use these relations in the service of regional peace and stability.

The sources added that despite the lack of optimism in the Gulf regarding the efforts made with Iran, Libya would nevertheless try this door on the basis of a clear idea, which would "put Iranian policy before the probabilities surrounding regional developments, so they may be faced with reason and wisdom."

The diplomatic sources also noted that Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz would visit Tripoli after 'Azzuz made his trip.

UK Foreign Secretary's Remarks on Pacific Condemned
LD270828 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Apr (JANA) — The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison issued a statement yesterday concerning remarks by Geoffrey Howe. Here is its text:

The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison wishes to refer to the hostile statements made by British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe during his visit to Australia and the Pacific region in which he attacked the Libyan Arab diplomatic role in the area. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison wishes to point out the following in this regard:

1. These statements by Geoffrey Howe affirm the imperialist forces' determination to mislead the world public and deliberately confuse terrorism with support for freedom. This is yet another of the desperate attempts being made to distort the cordial relations which bind the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to the peoples and countries of the Pacific Ocean.

2. The world now fully realizes that true terrorism is that which is practiced by the imperialist powers, headed by the United States and Britain, against small peoples who aspire to realize their freedom and sovereignty.

The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison need not recall Britain's role in support of the U.S. barbaric aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah last April. The acts of terrorism it commits in the Falkland Islands and Northern Ireland are also well known to all.

3. Geoffrey Howe's statements constitute a flagrant interference in the internal affairs of an independent and sovereign state which has the freedom to establish relations with other countries on the basis of equality and mutual respect without anyone's foreign hegemony or tutelage.

4. The British foreign secretary has tried to forget the imperialist role played by Britain in that area represented by the British colonialist presence, which was against the will of the region's peoples, and the presence of its naval forces, which terrify people there with their nuclear weapons.

5. The imperialist forces know that the Jamahiriyah's relations with the peoples and countries of the region are founded on equality and common interests and this should expose the truth about the plans and ambitions of these forces in restoring their hegemony over the region and its peoples.

6. Despite all the attempts by the imperialist powers to pin charges of terrorism on it, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will continue to provide aid and support for world liberation movements out of its belief that the strengthening of such groups cannot be branded as terrorism by any fair person. It reiterates its denunciation of all forms of terrorism, whether sponsored by governments or individuals.

Campaign Against Pacific Presence Cited

LD251904 Tripoli JANA in English 1759 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, al Tayr 25, *Jamahiriyah News Agency*—Political observers on Pacific affairs noticed recently that American and Zionist agents in the region launched an organized campaign, and at the same time, of distortion and disinformation through official and press statements on the dangers of the Libyan role towards their puppet regimes.

The campaign and its date shows that the order for such act came from the same source and for the same purpose, for the puppet regimes in the region went as far as asking the American Administration to fill the vacuum which they claimed was filled by Great Jamahiriyah in the area.

It is clear that the American Administration and the Zionists are behind such malicious campaign against Great Jamahiriyah and one may recall what the head of the Zionist entity declared when he visited the region. The Zionist terrorist claimed that he was there to put an end to Libyan influence in the region of the Pacific and South East Asia.

The aim of this vicious campaign is to distort the revolutionary and firm stand of Great Jamahiriyah in support of freedom and peace-loving countries and nations in accordance with the proclamation of people's power declared by the Libyan Arab people through their basic people's congresses which represent the real threat to imperialist and Zionist schemes and ridicules their dreams for expansion and domination in the region.

We are well aware that the campaign is a pretext for America to intensify its military presence in the region and the despatch of American forces from the North Pole to Australia as a prelude to justify that presence.

What is strange is that this hysteric campaign by politicians and news media focused only on the Libyan Arab presence in the Pacific while they ignore the rights of the small nations of the area and the threats endangering them as a result of nuclear tests and plans to turn the region for a scene of third world war as the leader of the revolution warned in his speech to the conference of the progressive and revolutionary and peace movements in the Pacific which was held at the Gulf of Defiance [Sidra]. Then the leader asserted that imperialists are ready to sacrifice the peoples of the Pacific for Europeans and Americans. The leader declared to the conference that Libya is shouldering courageously its responsibility and consider it as an eternal and sacred message and that the salvation of mankind lies in the formation of an international popular front embracing all world continents so as to stop imperialists and racists within their confines and stop them ridiculing and playing with peoples and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of others.

Kenyan Espionage Accusations 'Groundless'

LD241326 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Apr (JANA) — A responsible source at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has announced that the accusations made by the Kenyan authorities against some members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Kenya are groundless. It said the mission of the staff at the Libyan Arab People's Bureau there was to preserve relations between the two countries and not to interfere in Kenya's internal affairs.

The source added that the Great Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah deplores the Kenyan authorities' decision and stressed, for its part, that bilateral relations must be dealt with in a spirit of African brotherhood and in the interest of Africa's unity and freedom. It also highlighted the need to be aware of intrigues aimed at weakening the bonds among brothers.

Burkinabe Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

Met by Miftah Madi

LD251123 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Apr (JANA) — Leandre Bassolet, minister of external affairs and cooperation of Burkina Faso, arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. He was welcomed by Brother Miftah Madi, member of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD251540 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today received Leandre Bassolet, Burkinabe minister of external affairs and cooperation, who handed him a message from Colonel Thomas Sankara, chairman of the Burkinabe National Revolutionary Council.

Concludes Visit

LD262113 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Leandre Bassolet, foreign minister of the Burkina Jamahiriyah, left Tripoli this evening after a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. He was seen off by a member of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

MAURITANIA

Algerian President Bendjedid Arrives for Visit

Welcomed by Taya

LD262346 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN party, arrived in Nouakchott this evening on a friendly working visit to our country. He was welcomed at the foot of the steps to his plane by Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state. He was accompanied by members of the Mauritanian delegation of honor who will escort the Algerian president. [passage omitted]

The two heads of state held a private meeting this evening at the Presidential Palace, while the two delegations, led by the two foreign ministers, met in the Foreign Ministry building. The president will host a dinner tonight at the Presidential Palace in honor of his guest, President Chadli Bendjedid.

AFP Outlines Agenda

AB270932 Paris AFP in English 0811 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Nouakchott, April 27 (AFP) - Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid arrived late Sunday in Mauritania for a 48 hour visit to discuss Mauritanian concern over a possible extension of the Sahara conflict to a sensitive area of Mauritania's northern border.

Mauritania is worried about Moroccan plans to build a sixth desert defence line against infiltration by Polisario guerrillas only 400 yards (meters) from the railway (?carrying iron ore from) Zouerat to the Mauritanian port of Nouadhibou.

The purpose of the defence line is to keep Polisario guerrillas off the Atlantic coast but Mauritania fears it may trigger an upsurge of fighting in the area.

This, as well as bilateral issues, will be on the agenda in talks between President Chadli and his host Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya.

The two heads of state had a first round of talks Sunday night and on Monday, President Chadli was to reopen a newly refurbished oil refinery at Nouadhibou.

Algeria is involved in several major rehabilitation projects in Mauritania mainly in the oil sector.

SUDAN

SPLM May Delay Response to Peace Initiative

JN261203 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Apr (SUNA) — The newspaper *Al-Usbu* reported here today that the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] received the peace initiative, which was announced by the prime minister on 20 March, 2 weeks after its presentation in Khartoum.

The paper said the movement's representative in Addis Ababa has commented on the initiative by saying it is still premature for them to give their opinion of it. The paper said the government will not receive the SPLM's answer for 4-6 weeks. It added that the movement is trying to benefit from the time factor to win some battles at the beginning of fall, which is the rainy season. This will put pressure on the government during the talks on the proposed initiative.

USSR, GDR, CSSR Agree on Repaying Debts

JN240911 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Khartoum, April 23 (SUNA) — The Soviet Union, German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia have agreed to purchase 99 thousand tons of peanuts against repayment of a part of their debts to the Sudan but 50 percent of the package will be paid in cash to the Sudan, the daily *Al-Ayyam* reported Thursday.

The paper quoting Muhammad 'Abdallah, head of crops marketing delegation in East Europe, said delegations from the above-mentioned countries will arrive here soon to sign the purchase and transportation agreement.

Negotiation will be held soon with Hungary and Yugoslavia for concluding balanced deals with these countries, the paper quoted 'Abdallah as saying.

WESTERN SAHARA

Rebel Forces Down Moroccan F-5; Take Prisoners

LD261944 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] The Saharan Popular Liberation Army Forces shot down a Moroccan military aircraft today and captured a number of Moroccan troops. Sarihah Bahri reports:

[Bahri] A statement issued today by the Saharan Information Ministry said that forces of the Saharan Popular Liberation Army launched an attack at dawn today on the Moroccan occupation forces at (Al-Ayediyat) in the Guelta Zemmour area. The statement added that the attack resulted in the capture of many Moroccan soldiers and the seizure of a quantity of weapons.

The statement also said that Saharan Army forces shot down a Moroccan F-5 military aircraft with No 91931. The Saharan fighters managed to overrun Moroccan positions on the wall and occupy it for several hours.

The same statement pointed out that more details will be released later.

DJIBOUTI

Presidential, Parliamentary Elections Held 24 Apr

Tough Security Measures Taken

AB241210 Paris AFP in French 1003 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Djibouti, 24 Apr (AFP) — A little over 100,000 Afars and Issas of voting age are today electing the president of the republic and members of parliament in an unsurprising double vote.

Voters will cast two ballots: the first, which is a green paper, is to reelect President Hassan Gouled Aptidon for a second 6-year term, and the second, which is blue, to elect a single list of 65 deputies who will represent them in the National Assembly for 5 years.

The only unknown element in this election is the percentage of abstentions and invalid votes. President Gouled, who has ruled the country since independence on 27 June 1977, is the sole candidate. Likewise, the 65 parliamentary candidates, whose names are on a single list drawn up for the entire country, which constitutes a single constituency, are assured of victory.

No incidents had occurred by early morning and voting continued in Djibouti and its surburbs under a scorching sun, but in good humor and a relaxed atmosphere.

The election campaign, which ended on 22 April with an address by the head of state at a public rally in the center of the capital, was not marked by any major disturbances.

Following the bomb explosion in a coffee shop in the downtown area 6 weeks ago, which killed 12 people, including 5 French citizens, there was fear of additional trouble, especially among the 10,000-member French community. Since the blast, tough security measures have been taken, notably at the entrances to public places, where bags and parcels are searched.

For its part, Army Headquarters, in charge of some 4,000 French troops stationed in Djibouti, has declined to give any details on the security measures taken. It is obvious, however, that strict orders have been given to both soldiers and their families: On Thursday night, which is usually quite lively as it precedes the weekend, the town center, which is normally frequented by expatriates, was deserted. The coffee shops and nightclubs, usually filled with soldiers on leave, were totally empty. [passage omitted]

President Hassan Reelected

EA252201 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Al-Haji Hassan Gouled Aptidon, president of the Republic of Djibouti, received 98.71 percent of the votes cast in yesterday's presidential election. The total number of votes cast was 91,190. The parliamentarians nominated by the ruling party, the RPP [Popular Rally for Progress], received 87.26 percent of the votes in the parliamentary elections.

Yusuf Ali Shirdon, Djibouti minister of the interior, posts, and telecommunications, announced this initial result. The minister added that official results will be released by the National Election Committee in the next 5 days. [passage omitted]

AFP Gives Election Details

AB251115 Paris AFP in English 0815 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Djibouti, April 25 (AFP) — Voters in the tiny Horn of Africa nation of Djibouti gave President Hassan Gouled Aptidon a 90-percent yes vote for a second six-year term, and endorsed a 65-member list of parliamentary candidates in a no-surprise election here on Friday.

In the absence of a legal opposition group, the only real unknown in the election had been the abstention rate, and initial results put the turnout in the city of Djibouti, where most of the population live, at around 65 percent.

Officials said that President Hassan improved on his score in the 1981 election, in which he received 84.66 percent of votes cast.

In the absence of any opposition parties, there were no recommendations in favour of a boycott. However in Paris, the exiled National Movement for the Establishment of Democracy (MNDID) headed by former minister, Aden Robleh Awaleh, denounced the election as a fraud.

A bomb explosion six weeks ago at a city centre cafe, which killed 12 people, five of them French, had aroused fears of further violence as polling day neared, but the electoral campaign was free of major incidents. Strict security measures have been in force since the blast, with bag searches at the entrances to public places.

President Hassan, known locally as the "old man," was one of the first to cast his ballot. He has led the country since it became independent from France in 1977. The president, who has frequently denounced widespread influence-peddling, trafficking and swindling by officials, is shortly expected to form a new government. It is not yet known whether Prime Minister Barkat Gourad Hamadou will retain his post.

The 65 candidates all from the country's only legal party, the Rally for Progress Party (RPP), will serve for five years. They were selected to reflect the country's ethnic patterns.

KENYA

Government Expels Five Libyan Diplomats

EA251655 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 25 Apr 87 p 1

[Excerpts] The Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi government yesterday described as groundless Kenyan accusations against five expelled Libyan diplomats who were based in Nairobi. [passage omitted]

On Thursday [23 April] the government gave the five officials 14 days to leave the country following court revelations that the embassy had been running a spy ring in the country. They include the charge d'affaires, Mr Wanis 'Ali Misillati, [name as published] who was mentioned as having engaged three former university students to spy for Libya.

The Kenyan statement said: The government of Kenya has been watching carefully the activities of these diplomats and is satisfied that their conduct has been contrary to the normal functions of an embassy, which is to promote and strengthen relations between Kenya and Libya. [passage omitted]

Soon after the plot was unearthed, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Bethuel Kiplagat, said Kenya had sent a strong protest to Libya. The government had also demanded an explanation from Libya of the behavior of Mr Misillati, whose actions were described as a gross insult to the country and a blatant violation of the OAU Charter.

Libya had responded by promising to send a high-ranking official to Nairobi to investigate the matter and give an explanation.

Mr Misillati was reported to have fled the country by road to Uganda and was later said to have returned to Kenya. [passage omitted]

President Calls RSA Raid in Zambia 'Cowardly'

EA251506 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today condemned the raid by South African forces into the Zambian border town of Livingstone, in which five nationalists of the ANC died this morning.

The president said that the cowardly act was distasteful to all peace-loving nations of the world. He said that instead of shedding more blood, the South Africa regime should heed the voice of the majority and hold a conference to determine the future of the country.

President Moi was addressing a goodwill delegation of the Kamiruthu youth group of Limuru, Kiambu District, which visited him at his Kabarak home. [passage omitted]

TANZANIA

Foreign Ministry Condemns RSA Attack on Zambia

EA261710 Dar es Salaam External Service in English
1300 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Dar es Salaam — Tanzania today condemned the racist South Africa's attack on the southern Zambian town of Livingstone yesterday in which four people were killed.

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the attack was further demonstration of the degree of desperation of the apartheid regime in the face of the increased internal resistance against the vicious policies of apartheid. It said the acts of lawlessness which the South African regime has systematically chosen to resort to are no solution to the problems with which the region is confronted.

The government has reaffirmed its commitment and unflinching support to the people of Zambia in the defense of their country.

Rwandan President Habyarimana Speaks at Banquet

EA260850 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili
1000 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Dar es Salaam — Rwandan President Major General Juvenal Habyarimana has urged Rwanda and Tanzania to implement new cooperation projects. The Rwandan leader has again thanked Tanzania for its assistance, particularly in the communications and transport sectors, noting that Tanzania's help is a good example of the collaboration that should exist among developing countries.

Speaking at a state banquet in his honor yesterday evening given by his host, President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, President Habyarimana said his trip to Tanzania was part of the effort to improve existing cooperation between the two states. He said his invitation to be an official guest at tomorrow's ceremony marking the 23d anniversary of the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar is a great honor for the Rwandan people. After all, it was through this union that Tanzania won the respect of Africa, the developing countries, and the world at large. [passage omitted]

UGANDA

Libyans, Cubans Accused of Bombing Rebel Areas

EA261651 Nairobi SUNDAY STANDARD in English
26 Apr 87 p 1

[Article by Amadi Mugasia and Edward Abuor:"Uganda Killings: Libyans Blamed"]

[Text] Libyan and Cuban pilots have been accused of bombing civilians in the rebel-held areas of eastern and northern Uganda. This accusation has been made in a protest letter sent to President Yoweri Museveni by the Uganda National Rescue Front (UNRF), a junior partner in the Uganda Resistance Movement coalition government. The front said its soldiers, serving with the NRA [National Resistance Army] had witnessed last month the use of chemical weapons (nerve gas) against civilians in the three districts of Soroti, Apac and Gulu. The letter claims foreign pilots in the NRA bombed cattle markets in Gulu, Kitgum, Soroti, Kumi and Apac, killing scores of civilians in cold blood. The letter regretted the internationalization of the Uganda internal conflict. It said this had created a new dimension and that prospects for peace were remote.

The letter, sent to Mr Museveni from Yumbe in west Nile, said cases related to the deaths of civilians in Gulu, Kitgum, Lira, Soroti, Kumi, Masaka and Kasese districts, and blamed on the rebels, were utter nonsense.

There is a need for all parties to sit down and redesign a new course of action for the country to save it from the worst holocaust now being unleashed, the letter said.

Having observed carefully the performance of your government during the last 14 months, we wish to notify you and the world that we have taken steps to express our solidarity with the people in the north, east and south of Uganda.

The front said its armed fighters had joined hands with other patriotic Ugandans who were opposed to President Museveni's administration.

The people in the rebel-held regions were questioning President Museveni's wisdom of imposing on the Ugandan people Marxist policies through his 10-point programme, the front said.

The letter also revealed that a member of President Museveni's senior commanders like Brigadier Burhani who died in a mysterious helicopter crash near Gulu on 15th February together with all his bodyguards, had perished at the hands of the rebels.

The UNRF was one of the guerilla groups that fought the movement of former president Milton Obote between 1981 and 85. Its leader is Moses Ali, Mr Museveni's minister of tourism and wildlife.

About 1,000 Libyan soldiers and 100 Cuban military advisers are believed to be in Uganda assisting the NRA in its protracted war against the rebels.

Meanwhile, President Museveni's troops killed 30 civilians in the eastern town of Soroti early yesterday, a survivor said in Kampala last evening. The survivor, who has been hospitalized in Mengo with serious injuries, said a group of more than 100 civilians had hired a lorry to evacuate them from the town after a heavy dawn battle between the NRA and the rebels. A kilometre from the town, on Lira road, he said, NRA soldiers tossed hand grenades into and sprayed bullets at the lorry, killing at least 30 evacuees.

Museveni Discusses Trade With Algerian Delegation

EA241922 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] An Algerian delegation is in Uganda to work out a program for a joint commission for cooperation between Uganda and Algeria, which was agreed upon last year during a visit to Algeria by an Uganda goodwill mission. The members of the delegation were received by President Yoweri Museveni yesterday at State House, Entebbe. The delegation is led by the Algerian deputy minister for foreign affairs in charge of cooperation, Mr Mohamed Aberkane.

President Museveni told the members of the delegation that Uganda has the potential of producing a variety of products, especially agricultural, which would promote balanced trade between the two countries, noting that Uganda and Algeria have a lot of complementary aspects.

Under the joint commission for cooperation between Uganda and Algeria, Uganda will sell to Algeria products like cotton, coffee, tea, pineapples, groundnuts, and hides, while Algeria will sell to Uganda petroleum products, pharmaceutical and industrial chemicals, tractors, (?steel), and trucks.

The meeting was attended by Uganda's minister of foreign affairs, Mr Ibrahim Mukiibi, and the Algerian ambassador to Uganda, Mr (Nazir Hurbah).

Earlier, President Museveni received the outgoing representative of the EEC in Uganda, Mr Dijckmeester, who called on him to bid him farewell. The president and the delegate discussed issues concerning EEC assistance to Uganda and other matters of mutual interest. Mr Dijckmeester will soon be leaving the country for his new post in Sudan.

CHAD

Habre, U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary Meet

AB251731 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense in charge of international security affairs, arrived in Ndjamena yesterday for a 24-hour visit. He was received yesterday afternoon by the head of state, President Hissein Habre. [passage omitted]

More Talks Held 25 Apr

AB251740 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The president of the republic granted an audience today to Mr Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs. Mr Armitage, who arrived in our capital yesterday, leaves Ndjamena today and has thus had a second round of talks with the head of state.

Mr Gouara Lassou, our minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Mr John Blane, the U.S. ambassador to Chad, also took part in these talks.

It must be noted that Mr Armitage has had a working session with Chadian officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

GUNT Radio Comments on Visit

AB261723 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1825 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] As the military situation is (?quite calm), (?intense diplomatic activity has resumed) with a view to finding a peaceful solution to the Chadian crisis. Meanwhile, the liberation forces, which are concerned about on-the-spot political and military developments, have begun reorganizing themselves, obviously on new bases.

Evidently, one must learn to draw conclusions from recent events [words indistinct]. A greater number of envoys are visiting Ndjamena. [Words indistinct] after the trip by Robert Kasten, Jr to Ndjamena, another senior American envoy has come for a 1-day visit, from Thursday, 23 April, to Friday, 24 April. He is Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense in charge of international security affairs.

According to our permanent correspondent, the U.S. special envoy held lengthy talks with Hissein Habre. The rank of this American [words indistinct] is proof that the United States (?is seeking) to embark on the path of true military intervention in Chad and to use it (?as a base in Africa). Observers note that despite the (?cooperation) between the Americans and the French in Chad, there is some competition between Paris and Washington.

Radio on Internal Opposition to Al-Qadhdhafi

AB261245 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Al-Qadhdhafi is very much opposed within his country. The colonel and the diabolical (?gang) around him are aware of this. The leading cause of this vast wave of discontent is the war against Chad, followed by direct dictatorship, nepotism, and corruption. The consequence of this situation, brought about by a regime true to its image, is the formation of many opposition groups both within Libya and from among Libyan dissident groups living abroad.

All of these opposition groups are led by former members of Al-Qadhdhafi's regime who have turned against the Libyan colonel's policies. For several years now, Libya has been going through a series of upheavals. There have been assassination attempts of all sorts, an increasing malaise in the Army, and more intense internal bickering. And to fill the Libyan political leader's cup to the brim, a member of the grassroots people's congress recently went on Libyan television to vehemently denounce the luxurious expenditures of the Army, the enormous waste, the nepotism, and the corruption, and demanded that authority be respected.

What fate has been reserved for him following this denunciation? No doubt it will be the same suffered by Hasan Ishkal. The respect enjoyed by the Libyan colonel on his ascension to power has dwindled with the rise of a protest movement over which he no longer has control. Al-Qadhdhafi is moving to counterattack. His weapon is the revolutionary committees whose members number some 200,000. These militiamen, who were initially in charge of ideological instruction, have undergone an exceedingly fast transformation and today constitute a real gang of criminals and cutthroats whose extraordinary mediocrity is equalled only by their ferocity.

Al-Qadhdhafi, using the revolutionary committees, is conducting a policy of pitiless and unparalleled repression of presumed traditional Muslims. Hangings have been given great publicity on television and arrests number in the thousands. To keep himself in power, the Libyan colonel has at his disposal a multilayered organization with a complex structure. At the base are the revolutionary committees from which Al-Qadhdhafi selects those to whom he has confided important posts in the field of security: Ibrahim al-Bishari, chief of security; Major Abdallah Sanusi, head of the external security service which specializes in the hunting down and execution of opponents; and Maj Khalifah Hunaysh, chief of Al-Qadhdhafi's bodyguard, are products of these committees.

To escape this heavy repressive machinery, some 100,000 Libyans have fled the country and are living in several foreign countries. First the monarchists, intellectuals, and technocrats left the country of the Libyan colonel to avoid having to refer to the (?depressing) *Green Book*, which is considered utopian and naive. The same path is being trod by the traders who were victims of nationalization, as well as by religious people who do not appreciate Al-Qadhdhafi's brand of Islam. This amalgam has given rise to the creation of 10 movements opposed to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's regime.

In fact, such a political climate can in no way favor economic prosperity. Today, Libyan oil is not earning much. Debts have piled up, with the result that the Libyan people must now stand in line even for basic necessities. The Libyan economy is in trouble; I could even say it is very ill. In fact, since Col al-Qadhdhafi came to power in September 1969, he has been walking a tightrope. But his [words indistinct] the arms race, the unending war that he has been waging against our country, and his policy of seeking prestige, which have earned him the enmity of many Western and African capitals, have, following the fall in oil prices, become double-edged swords. (?Due to this), the ambitious 5-year development plan for 1981-1985 did not yield the expected results. Even less is expected from the 1986-1990 5-year development. Today, austerity is the key word in Tripoli. Apart from defense, all the other sectors of the general budget have been subjected to drastic cuts. Another disturbing sign is the Libyan currency's tremendous slide against the dollar and other foreign currencies. Whereas in Tripoli the dinar is worth $4.50, it is, in fact, quoted at slightly more than $1 on the international market.

The war he is waging on our country does not make things easy for the colonel of Tripoli who, in all his speeches, calls on the Libyan people to make further sacrifices. Thus, following the policy of reduced imports, essential commodities are becoming scarcer in Libyan markets. Some food items are also disappearing. Shortages of meat occur periodically, and to buy bread, one must stand in line for hours. The people's shops, a kind of supermarket, governed by rules from the *Green Book*, Al-Qadhdhafi's credo, now offer only a few items for their few visitors. Petty trading, which was banned for several years, has begun to resurface. Smuggling, especially on the road leading to the airport, is flourishing. Meat, when found, is snapped up by customers, even at cutthroat prices.

Thus, the fall in the standard of living and the rise in prices have forced many foreigners to leave the country in the past 2 years. Still on the economic front, it should be noted that agriculture has almost become a monopoly for Polish nationals, while Filipinos make up the majority of hospital personnel. North Koreans, loyal to Kim Il-song, form the bulk of the building sector.

In the final analysis, it is quite doubtful that Libya can surmount its economic difficulties as long as oil prices remain stagnant and Libya continues its aggressive policies against Chad.

GABON

Bongo Receives French President's Africa Adviser

AB251955 Paris AFP in French 1724 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Libreville, 24 Apr (AFP) — French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser for African affairs, Jean-Christophe Mitterrand, was received in audience today by Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

Mr Mitterrand, who arrived in Libreville yesterday evening from Yaounde, is expected to leave Gabon tomorrow morning for Paris.

French Interior Minister Pasqua Meets Bongo

AB262054 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1830 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Charles Pasqua set foot on Gabonese soil this morning for the first time. He is to spend 3 days here as the official guest of Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo and his government. The French interior minister met President Bongo late this afternoon for talks. During his stay in Gabon, he is expected to meet various local figures, including Prime Minister Leon Mebiame.

Charles Pasqua will also tour the interior of Gabon. His first stop will be Port Gentil, the industrial city, followed by Franceville, another economic center, and finally, Oyem, capital of Gabon's agricultural province.

Bilateral cooperation will certainly be one of the major topics of discussion between the French minister and his Gabonese counterparts. Nevertheless, according to the Gabonese minister of territorial administration, Nguema Richard Bekale, the problem of immigrants will be examined thoroughly, as it is in this area above all others that relations must be improved. This is despite the fact that they are generally excellent and exemplary. It is also necessary to strengthen the serenity of these ties. [Words indistinct] the upcoming meeting of the French-Gabonese permanent committee in Paris.

Other issues to be examined by Charles Pasqua include technical training of cadres in France and technical assistance in the fields of local administration, civilian protection, and immigration.

ZAIRE

Calm Urged After Soccer Incidents in Congo

AB261218 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0950 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 24 Apr [date as received] (AZAP) — The Executive Council, at its meeting today at the Council Hotel, chaired by First State Commissioner Prof Mabi Mulumba, called on MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] militants, in line with party discipline, to remain calm, worthy, and loyal to the African mission of Zaire, a hospitable country.

The coordinator of the Executive Council, in his opening address to the session, spoke of the unfortunate incidents that marred Thursday's soccer game between the Leopards of Zaire and the Red Devils of Congo, during the third Central African Games [being held in Brazzaville, Congo].

Conscious of the secular ties of fraternity between the peoples of the two countries and in view of the friendship between their respective leaders, the Executive Council deplored these incidents and condemned the poor treatment given the members of the Zairian national team before and after the match. [passage omitted]

Looting in Kinshasa Reported

AB261258 Paris AFP in French 1245 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 25 Apr (AFP) — Calm returned to Kinshasa this morning following incidents of looting in the Zairian capital on Thursday night, an AFP correspondent observed.

City bus service resumed late yesterday evening and the ferry between Kinshasa and Brazzaville started up again after a day's break.

In the Matonge area, situated in the city's geographical center, gendarmes were still protecting stores belonging to citizens from other African countries [words indistinct] shops with their walls broken down and only had iron frames [words indistinct] left. The stalls where "Senegalese" Muslim butchers used to sell meat and brochettes were today deserted by their occupants.

Tension has eased in the capital after the outburst of violence and is not expected to rise again.

BURKINA FASO

Chad's Goukouni Arrives in Ouagadougou 26 Apr

AB261948 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Goukouni Oueddei arrived in Ouagadougou this afternoon from Lome. Goukouni Oueddei, who began an African tour a few weeks ago, was met on arrival by Comrade Blaise Compaore, minister of state to the presidency in charge of justice.

Let us now listen to Goukouni Oueddei on the aim of his visit to Burkina Faso.

[Begin recording] [Goukouni] (?I came here from Togo). I was in Togo and other African countries as part of a tour of several states. I am here today to hold talks with President Thomas Sankara, to try to make him understand and explain to him the development of the prevailing situation in Chad and our stand on national reconciliation. It is only in this framework that (?I have come here. I do not have any other explanation).

[Reporter] The 14th OAU summit set up an ad hoc committee to examine this border dispute. This committee will meet on 28 and 29 April at Libreville in Gabon. (?What is your opinion on this?)

[Goukouni] I totally agree that this dispute between Chad and Libya can be settled within the framework of the International Court of Justice since the the present armed conflict will merely aggravate the situation. In my opinion, therefore, the two parties have to meet, at any cost, to settle their dispute politically. That, in my opinion, will preserve the relations between the two countries and peoples. [end recording]

President Sankara Comments on CEAO Summit

AB250858 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Excerpts] The comrade president of Burkina Faso yesterday evening held a news conference on the 12th summit of the CEAO [West African Economic Community] with local reporters. Before tackling the summit, the comrade president first of all commented on his visit to Cape Verde, where he was welcomed by President Pereira with whom he discussed bilateral relations and the Cape Verdian experience in the liberation struggle. [passage omitted]

Let us now go to Nouakchott:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] According to foreign press reports, closed-door discussions were held at the Nouakchott summit on Burkina Faso's stand on intracommunity trade. Comrade president of Burkina Faso, what is the exact situation?

[Sankara] No state demanded any explanations from Burkina Faso. On no occasion was Burkina Faso asked to give an explanation. I do not know who, in any case, can afford to be so audacious toward us. In any case, if we had been asked to give any explanations on any point, we would have been able to furnish them.

What happened was that the Secretariat of the CEAO, apart from a document which it was to present on intracommunity trade — a document which should have been prepared in 1984 — deemed it expedient to hide all that happened from 1984 to date. Let us take only this example: One state — which they did not name — is reported to have taken some measures on taxes, statistics, and trade. That was at the Council of Ministers' meeting where we were fittingly represented by two comrades who defended our cause, and I am sure it will be a long time before we see such audacious attacks against Burkina Faso's integrity.

What is the case in point? Statistical and trade taxes: Concerning the statistical taxes, people tried to blame Burkina Faso for the institution of a tax of 4 percent, effective from 1987, on financial gains. We admit that this tax is inconvenient for the transport operators. It involves making every transport operator who passes through our territory pay 4 percent of the value of the cargo or goods being transported. We admit that it is not pleasant. Even 0.01 percent is not pleasant, so 4 percent is bound to be less pleasant. But we have no choice because first, our roads, which are used by these trucks — we see so many of them crossing our territory — are roads that cost us much to construct and to maintain. We spend about 70 million to 90 million CFA francs on each kilometer of tarred road. Sometimes it costs us 100 million CFA francs per kilometer of tarred road. So you can calculate by the number of kilometers of tarred road used by international transport dealers throughout Burkina Faso, and you will realize that it is a heavy burden to bear. [passage omitted]

This is the first reason that led us to levy a tax to obtain some revenue.

The second reason is that our country has often been accused, as you have been hearing, of allowing weapons to pass through it. Well, we want to set up an escort, a service to check these vehicles, to make sure that nobody will ever again implicate us in such serious issues as the destabilization of a neighbor or complicity with destabilizers passing through Burkina Faso.

The third reason is that these taxes were instituted because all our neighboring states have these taxes. These taxes have always existed; we only began them in 1987.

Burkina Faso is prepared to give in completely. (?We have said it before) and we repeat today, as we repeated in Nouakchott, that if (?other African states) are willing to abolish their taxes, then Burkina Faso will totally abolish its 4 percent tax. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] How do you view real and efficient economic integration between members of the community?

[Sankara] Economic integration is a necessity [words indistinct]. You know that at Nouakchott, at the same CEAO ministerial council meeting, the CEAO Secretariat tried to create the impression that a state, which was not named, had decided to ban the importation of certain goods, thereby hampering trade. It is unfortunate that Burkina Faso was not named.

At the heads of state summit, the discussions, which were very lengthy, were on several other issues, but not on this particular one. This is indeed unfortunate because the president of Burkina Faso went to the summit especially because of that issue. Unfortunately, the issue was not tackled so he was unable to voice his opinion.

The issue was nevertheless raised at the ministerial level and there our comrades gave the necessary explanations. One has to note that it is not our fault that trade is being hampered. The measures we have adopted in Burkina Faso to stop the importation of fruits and [word indistinct] will have their logical consequences. Other measures will be adopted later in the same vein. Our comrades made it clear that Burkina Faso regretted the fact that it had gained nothing from its open international trading activities.

All states, and I mean all states, behave in the same manner Burkina Faso is now behaving, and in this regard we produced substantial evidence to support our argument. There is not a single state that does not practice protectionism.

Another fact is that we in Burkina Faso cannot continue to produce and not have any outlets for our goods, as we live in a community of 40 to 41 million consumers. Either we maintain solidarity and support each other or we do not. In this regard it must be stated clearly that everyone must assume his responsibilities.

[Sankara] In Burkina Faso we cannot abandon the products of our workers by refusing to buy them simply because the sale of other more competitive imported products has been authorized by us. That is irresponsible, therefore, there is no need to expect us to act otherwise. We will consume the little we are able to produce. If what we produce is not enough, we will import to supplement what we have. We will, nevertheless, make an effort to limit our imports every time conditions of production here make it unnecessary to import.

We agree that if a market is vast there is need for diversity [words indistinct] specialization instead of imposing, at great cost, reduced production in certain areas. We therefore agree to exchange. But this exchange must be reciprocal. Burkina Faso produces grain, cotton, sisal, shea butter, [words indistinct] and so on. [passage omitted]

Burkina Faso will no longer accept goods from outside simply because applications are submitted to us or pressure is brought to bear on us through diplomatic or other channels. No more of that! Good. (?If you want to sell your products) in Burkina Faso, then we must be sure that you are also prepared to buy some of our products in exchange. It could be cotton, shea butter, meat, gold, manganese, [words indistinct] something else. That is how it should be. [passage omitted]

In this zone of ours, this economic community we belong to, there is capital flow to other countries, to other monetary zones, to the detriment of our products. Meat is imported from Argentina, and perhaps even from South Africa, to the detriment of local production. That is not normal. The day CEAO member-countries decide to consume Mauritanian fish, Mauritania will have an economic burden lifted from its shoulders because it will have 40 million people to supply fish to. As you know, it is a country whose fish production is extremely high. In exchange, Mauritania could buy, for example, chickens, guinea fowl, and whatever else (?it may need). [passage omitted]

There is need for integration in order to expand our market. We have to encourage workers to produce more in a calm atmosphere, with the assurance that they can sell what they produce. [passage omitted]

We say yes to free movement and to integration, but integration to protect our zone in exactly the same way as all countries in the region have been doing for a long time. You know about the harassment faced by our livestock producers at the borders when they attempt to export their livestock. This is to protect the zone. Countries which used to import meat from us have embarked on meat production programs.

[Word indistinct] is a project existing in Ivory Coast, for example, which I think is very successful. I remember that in 1982 the minister of rural development, Compaore Andre, said at a program in Niamey, among other things, that the Ivorian agriculture minister had announced that Ivory Coast was capable of supplying neighboring countries with poultry. It is a very good thing. I admire this achievement and praise it. [passage omitted]

We must compete with other markets. Our market does not have imperialist tendencies. We do not want to invade others by imposing our goods on them as imperialists tend to do. We merely want to remain at home and consume what we produce. The French do the same. When they recently imported AWACS planes from the United States they insisted that the United States import other products from their country in order to maintain the trade balance.

Recently, the United States adopted new measures against the Japanese to prevent them from invading the American market. The Japanese are advancing rapidly, too rapidly in fact. In France, in Europe in general, measures have been adopted against them. [passage omitted] [end recording]

GUINEA

Mali's Traore Arrives for Working Visit 24 Apr

AB251250 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Conakry this morning granted a warm welcome to General Moussa Traore, the Malian head of state, who is visiting Conakry for the first time since the advent of the Second Republic. His visit is in return for the one which General Lansana Conte paid to Mali last December. Upon his arrival at Conakry-Gbessia International Airport, Gen Moussa Traore told our correspondent, Cheick Sylla, the significance he attaches to his trip to our country:

[Begin recording][Traore] First of all, I want to thank my brother and friend President Lansana Conte for the invitation to pay this working visit to Conakry. I also want to thank him for the warm, brotherly, and friendly welcome given me and my delegation. In fact, this is my first visit to Guinea since the advent of the Second Republic. But you are aware of the amicable brotherliness and friendship existing between Guinea and Mali. This is a fact. That brotherliness between us is based on our common history and geography as well as the blood relationship existing between our two countries. The significance I can give to this working visit is that it will enable us to strengthen the development of that friendship and that brotherliness.

[Sylla] Mr President, last December, General Lansana Conte paid a working and friendly visit to Mali. On that occasion, you and your brother and friend discussed a number of topics concerning the implementation of some joint ventures. May we know whether the Conakry visit will enable you to pursue your discussions on this issue of vital importance to our two states?

[Traore] That is true. It could not have been otherwise. As it is difficult to differentiate between a Guinean and a Malian, it is obviously normal that we take the lead and urge our people to carry out the projects that can be implemented. [end recording]

Ministerial Talks Begin

AB251300 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Interministerial talks between Mali and Guinean officials began today at the Palace of Nations. The talks, which were held behind closed doors, were presided over by the minister and permanent secretary of the CMRN [Military Committee for National Redress], Major Kerfala Camara. The Guinean side included Maj Jean Traore, a CMRN member and minister of foreign affairs; Maj Alpha Oumar Diallo, a CMRN member and minister of interior and decentralization; Lieutenant Colonel Sory Doumbouya, a CMRN member and minister of national defense; Edouard Benjamin, minister of planning and international cooperation; Zainou Abdin Sanoussi, minister of information and culture; Dr Ousmana Sylla, minister of natural resources, energy and environment; and El Hadj Ibrahima Sory Diaby, secretary of state for security.

As for the Malian side, it was led by the political secretary of the UDPM [Democratic Union of Malian People], Djibril Diallo. It included, in particular, Filifing Sissoko, treasurer of the UDPM Executive Bureau; Modibo Keita, Malian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Sekou Ly, minister of national defense; and Abdourahmane Maiga, minister of territorial administration.

The two delegations reviewed the various aspects of Guinea-Mali cooperation, following the recommendations and decisions made at the second session of the Guinea-Mali joint commission held in November 1985. Here is Malian Foreign Minister Modibo Keita commenting on the outcome of this interministerial meeting:

[Begin recording] The objective of the working session was to examine the various aspects of cooperation between the two countries. In fact, we reviewed the decisions made at the last meeting of the joint commission as well as during the last visit that President Lansana Conte paid to Mali. We noted that this cooperation has recorded great success, particularly in the area of technical cooperation and road transportation, providing Mali with access to the sea, and also in the field of energy, because both countries are acting jointly to fight against desert encroachment and to protect their (?ecological systems). Therefore, we noted the need to make our decisions more concrete by drawing up guidelines for the meeting of the joint commission to be held in a few months. [end recording]

Malian Minister on Chad

AB251312 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Excerpts] In Chad, the differences between the brothers and enemies are being straightened out. African capitals are calling for national reconciliation. In this broadcast, you will hear the Malian foreign minister state Bamako's views on the Chadian situation. [passage omitted] As has been said often, the civil war can only be ended through reconciliation among the Chadians themselves. This was confirmed again today in Conakry by Malian Foreign Minister Modibo Keita:

[Begin recording] The Malian Government is concerned about the the situation prevailing in Chad because we are convinced that as long as there is a hotbed in our subregion, nobody can say he is at ease. Therefore, we believe that Chadians must not give anyone the opportunity to interfere in their affairs. This can only be achieved through intensifying efforts toward national reconciliation. We believe that the Chadian situation must be settled in conformity with the pertinent resolutions of the OAU, that is, respect for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of each state. [end recording]

LIBERIA

14 Suspected Coup Plot Sympathizers Arrested

AB251551 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Ever since the attempted coup against Samuel Doe's government in Liberia in November 1986, there have been sporadic reports of harassment by security forces of civilians who might have been sympathetic to the plotters. [Words indistinct] there has been an incident in Nimba County, which was the home of the coup's leader, General Quiwonkpa. He was killed in the fighting during the coup attempt. From Monrovia, Isaac Bantu cabled this report:

[Begin recording] According to the Liberian *Daily Observer*, 14 people in (Vaniengle) and Bele, great towns in Nimba County, have been arrested and detained, allegedly by men in military uniforms. The chiefs of the two towns have alleged that the 14 men arrested are being detained at the (Salina) checkpoint in Bong County. Some of these men, the chiefs say, have been severely beaten during investigation. They made the claim that no reasons have been given for their detention. In a recent complaint to the Ministry of Justice, the chiefs also alleged that in an earlier incident on the 2d of April, a group of soldiers surrounded (Vaniengle) town and began shooting while boys and girls of the town were dancing a traditional dance. The chiefs say that as a result of the shooting, some citizens ran into the bush for safety. According to the chiefs, some of them were seriously wounded. I telephoned the acting justice minister, William Godfrey, and he told me that he has just received the formal complaints from the chiefs today. He said he will act upon them as soon as possible. Referring to the newspaper article on the 14 arrests, Mr Godfrey said that he had read the story and was doing everything possible to look into the case. In their letter, the chiefs said that in the interior, there are no televisions, videos, or other forms of amusement. Therefore, they say, when farmers return from their fields, moonlight dancing and fun playing are the only means of entertainment. If it is wrong to dance or play in the villages, the chiefs say, we will be happy to stop if we are properly informed. [end recording]

LAP Granted Permission To Publish Newspaper

AB242233 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The minister of information has granted the Liberian Action Party, LAP, permission to publish its newsletter in accordance to the guidelines set by the ministry. Here is more by Bob Chengbe:

[Chengbe] In a letter to LAP Acting Secretary General (Dr Levi Zangway), Information Minister Emmanuel Z. Bowier said, the ministry has carefully reviewed your request and hereby grants you permission to publish your party's newsletter. He reminded (Dr Zangway) that the party was expected to adhere to the guidelines of the publication of newsletters by registered political parties in Liberia. [passage omitted]

Mr Bowier assured the LAP acting secretary general of government's cooperation and support in keeping our people fully informed at all times.

On April 16, the National Democratic Party of Liberia and the United People's Party, UPP, were also granted permission to publish their newsletters.

MALI

Traore Leaves for Guinean Working Visit 24 Apr

AB240929 Paris AFP in French 0757 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Bamako, 24 Apr (AFP) — Malian President General Moussa Traore left here this morning for a 24-hour working visit to Guinea.

President Traore, it is indicated in Bamako, will hold talks with his Guinean counterpart on bilateral relations between their two countries and on subregional problems. The visit comes in response to the "friendly and working" visit which Guinean head of state, General Lansana Conte, paid to Mali on 3 and 4 December 1986.

On that occasion, the two heads of state had agreed to expand and strengthen the cooperation between their two countries in all fields and pledged their willingness to give a new impetus to subregional groups with the aim of fostering the rapid economic integration of African states.

Returns From Trip 25 Apr

AB261055 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] President Moussa Traore returned to Bamako early this evening from Conakry where he made a 24-hour visit. The head of state was weclomed on arrival by members of the Central Executive Bureau, the government, the National Assembly Standing Committee, and the diplomatic corps.

Here is General Moussa Traore talking to Oumar Toure:

[Begin recording] As you recall, President Lansana Conte made a friendly and working visit to our country last December. During that visit we began the first phase of talks which centered on the development of bilateral cooperation. We also raised a certain number of issues which formed the basis of the discussions we held yesterday. I would say today that I held fruitful, constructive discussions with my brother and friend President Lansana Conte on those issues. [passage omitted] [end recording]

SIERRA LEONE

Momoh Gives Anniversary Address; More Arrests

AB261849 Paris AFP in French 1632 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Freetown, 26 Apr (AFP) — Sierra Leonean President Joseph Momoh asserted on Monday [27 April] that his government would take measures to stop the depreciation of the national currency, the leone.

In a nationwide broadcast delivered on the occasion of the country's 26th independence anniversary, President Momoh criticized the country's lack of support from the IMF with which, he said, deliberations are under way. The exchange rate for the leone, which was 20 to the dollar in June 1986, is currently 60 to the dollar.

On the recent coup attempt of 23 March which he once more condemned, President Momoh called on Sierra Leoneans to remain vigilant because "enemies continue to lurk in corners" waiting for a time to strike.

According to the police, 11 more people involved in the coup attempt were arrested yesterday, 25 April, thus bringing the number of detained persons connected with this matter to 44. The police also announced that they had obtained a recording that would compromise former Deputy Inspector General of Police Gabriel Kaikai.

In spite of economic difficulties, Sierra Leoneans are celebrating the independence anniversary with some hope. A certain number of opponents, who were living in exile, have been allowed to return to their country within the framework of a reform program launched by President Momoh.

Opposition Figure To Return for Anniversary

AB241032 Dakar PANA in English 0901 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Freetown, 24 April (SLENA/PANA) — A former governor-general of Sierra Leone Sir Banja Tijan-Sie will return home today after 15 years of self-imposed exile in London.

Sir Banja Tejan-Sie, together with another prominent Sierra Leonean exile, former foreign minister in the now defunct Sierra Leone Peoples Party Government, Dr John Kerefa Smart, have been invited by President Joseph Momoh to take part in the 26th anniversary of Sierra Leone independence on 27 April.

Discussing the invitation with Sierra Leone's high commissioner in London, Caleb Aubee, Sir Banja said "This is a great occasion for me after 15 years of self-imposed exile to return."

He thanked President Momoh for this opportunity to return home and stressed that "the past is gone and its traumas must now be forgotten."

A lawyer by profession, Sir Banja Tejan-Sie also held the posts of speaker of parliament and chief justice and was the last governor-general before Sierra Leone attained republican status.

Sierra Leone ceased to observe independence anniversary since it became a republic in 1971.

According to sources from the president's office, government views the revival of the independence anniversary as a major component of its reconciliation policy. A key event of the celebrations is a religious service at the grave-side of the country's first prime minister and architect of independence, Sir Milton Margai.

TOGO

Eyadema Meets Goukouni, Chad Government Official

Grants Audience to Goukouni

AB241318 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Excerpts] President Gnassingbe Eyadema granted an audience this morning to Mr Goukouni Oueddei, president of the original GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] [title as heard]. The audience, which lasted 2 hours, was followed by a luncheon, which is still going on at the Presidential Palace. The luncheon, which President Eyadema is hosting in honor of his guest, is also being attended by members of the cabinet.

You may recall that Mr Goukouni, accompanied by several of his colleagues, arrived in Lome yesterday afternoon by road from Cotonou. [passage omitted] It must be stated that Mr Goukouni's visit to Togo is within the framework of an African tour which has already taken him to Abidjan, Libreville, Cotonou, and Lagos.

Meets Chad Government Official

AB241958 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The founding chairman of the RPT [Rally of the Togolese People] and president of the republic late this afternoon received at his private residence in Lome II [a ward in Lome] Ahmed Korom, Chadian secretary of state for foreign affairs.

Goukouni on Habre's Authority

AB242152 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The head of state, General Eyadema, this morning received in audience Goukouni Oueddei, president of the original GUNT [Transitional National Union Government]. The audience, which lasted 2 hours, was followed by a luncheon at the Presidential Palace offered by President Eyadema. The luncheon was attended by members of government.

After the luncheon, Goukouni Oueddei met reporters. He told them that his coming to Lome, and especially his meeting with the Togolese head of state, was to explain his point of view on the situation in Chad and also to learn what the heads of state he has met think about him. Mr Goukouni said he was ready to reconcile with Mr Hissein Habre so that together they can find ways and means to build their country. The president of the original GUNT found President Eyadema, who in 1980 risked his life to go and reconcile the sons of Chad by personally going on the field, in scorn of shells and bullets. President Goukouni [as heard] also expressed gratitude to General Eyadema who, in 1982, in Lome, got the sons of Chad to sign a treaty that brought an end to fighting among Chadians.

On his recognition of President Hissein Habre as the supreme authority of Chad, Mr Goukouni Oueddei hinted that the ambition for power is now far from his mind; he is acting now to promote national reconciliation among all the sons of Chad.

[Begin recording] [Goukouni] As you know, our country is experiencing certain developments and it is necessary to make our point of view known on these developments. That is why I am here today in Togo after visiting other African countries. I spoke this morning with President Eyadema to tell him clearly that we are ready to reconcile with Hissein Habre so we can reason together about the future of our country. I also entrusted him with (?an issue) on which we Chadians have not as yet had any agreement. On this also I asked President Eyadema to help convince Hissein Habre and to give me the necessary advice if ever I take the wrong path. If I have turned to President Eyadema today for advice, it is because he is one of the heads of state who at a very difficult moment risked his life by braving shelling and bullets to come and help reconcile me with Habre in 1980 in

Ndjamena. He was also bold enough to cross the Chari River to contact Habre, and in 1982 here in Lome, your beautiful capital, in his presence we signed a cease-fire agreement that put an end to clashes among Chadians.

So President Eyadema generally knows the Chadian issue and has the unity of Chadians at heart. That is why I am here today [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Mr President, you said recently that you recognize President Habre as the only president of Chad. What significance to you attach to such a statement and what is its political implication?

[Goukouni] As you know, since the GUNT left Ndjamena in 1982, we have always maintained a consistent stand: never to recognize Hissein Habre's authority. We always saw him as part of a faction occupying the Chadian capital. We believed that we represented the legitimate authority and at each meeting we demanded that the Ndjamena group be treated as a mere faction opposed to the GUNT.

But today, when one reflects on it, one has to be realistic about all that is happening. We have begun to change our position. We are now saying that in the interest of national reconciliation, in order for peace to return to the country, the problem of power should be removed from our thinking. That is why we recognize Hissein Habre as the supreme authority of the country and we want to see national reconciliation established around him, among the sons of Chad, without any exception, so that everybody can come back home to try to think about Chad's development, because it is lagging behind in many fields.

[Reporter] Mr President, you have undertaken an African tour that has enabled you to meet several heads of state with whom you exchanged views. Could you tell us what lessons you drew from these? Do these lessons fall within the national reconciliation process that has already been launched?

[Goukouni] You must get closer to a man to know him well. When you are at a distance, you often judge from the outward appearance of a man. In the recent tour I have undertaken, I have discovered many things, beginning with President Houphouet-Boigny, who highly impressed me, because I had a different idea about him before. The same goes for President Bongo and for Eyadema here today. If I had known, I would have begun this tour earlier so that our thoughts could have been clearly and accurately communicated. These heads of state, too, may have different points of view about us, because they thought we were in the pay of others, to the detriment of our country. In my recent tour, I explained my position clearly to the heads of state I met, and they share my views about reconciliation, because at every meeting they all wished for the reunion of Chadians. And what we are saying today falls within the same framework for (?national reconciliation). Therefore, I attach a lot of importance and significance to all the meetings I have had. They are very positive meetings and we must absolutely persevere in the same direction.

[Reporter] Mr President, should we think that you will soon return to Ndjamena?

[Goukouni] If we are able to smooth out the little differences we have, I will return to Ndjamena the day after we sign an agreement. [end recording]

Further Meetings Reported

AB251453 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpt] In the past 24 hours, President Gnassingbe Eyadema has met with former GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] President Goukouni Oueddei and Ahmed Korom, the Chadian secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation. In fact, after their long talks yesterday morning at the Presidential Palace in Lome, which lasted 2 hours, President Eyadema and the original GUNT president met again this morning behind closed doors at President Eyadema's private residence in Lome II [a ward in Lome]. Goukouni Oueddei arrived there at 0900 accompanied by Yaovi Adodo, the [Togolese] minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Their talks this morning lasted an hour, unlike those held yesterday which lasted 2 hours and were followed by a luncheon hosted by President Eyadema in honor of his guest and his delegation in the presence of cabinet members.

Following his meeting this morning with Goukouni Oueddei, the head of state also received at his private residence Ahmed Korom, the Chadian secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, who was also accompanied to the residence by Yaovi Adodo, member of the RPT [Rally of the Togolese People] Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. The Chadian official and President Eyadema held talks for 45 minutes. [passage omitted].

Goukouni Meets Korom

AB252017 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpts] General Gnassingbe Eyadema once again held talks with Original GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] President Goukouni Oueddei this afternoon at the Presidential Palace. It is worth mentioning that before this afternoon's talks, Goukouni Oueddei had already met with President Eyadema for more than 3 hours, and he has been in the country for 48 hours. [passage omitted]

This afternoon at 1600, Goukouni Oueddei met with Ahmed Korom, the Chadian secretary of state for foreign affairs. Their talks lasted 2 hours. [passage omitted]

Goukouni Ends Visit, Departs

AB262204 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Ex-GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] leader Goukouni Oueddei left Lome this afternoon aboard an F-28 plane of the Republic of Togo for Ouagadougou, at the end of a 4-day visit to Togo. He was seen off at the Lome-Tokoin International Airport by Kpotivi Lacle, member of the Political Bureau, keeper of the seals, and minister of justice; and by Yaovi

Adodo, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Shortly before his departure, Mr Goukouni Oueddei spoke to the press about his 4-day visit to Togo.

[Begin Goukouni recording] My 4-day visit here was very fruitful, as far as I am concerned, since I held several meetings with President Eyadema. During various rounds of talks, we discussed the Chadian crisis thoroughly. I came to the conclusion that President Eyadema is absolutely in favor of a reconciliation meeting between Chadians. I have gained a great deal of experience from all these talks. I have drawn the conclusion that my arrival here has contributed a great deal to national reconciliation.

Before my departure, I would like to seize the opportunity to thank President Eyadema, the government, and people of Togo for the warm welcome we received. We are leaving your capital with the hope of returning here again by God's will. We are leaving with many memories.

On my stay here and the meetings I held with President Eyadema, I can tell you that we made a great advance in the national reconciliation process. This is a very important stage for Chad. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Plane Flown by U.S. Citizen Reported Shot Down

'Espionage Work' Alleged

MB241924 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Angolan Air Force jet fighters last Tuesday shot down a light aircraft piloted by a U.S. citizen at (?Otechinjau), in Cunene Province's Cahama municipality. This was revealed by ANGOP, which quoted 5th military region military sources in Lubango city.

The same sources expressed the belief that the aircraft was carrying out espionage work on behalf of the South African Army. It was (?trying) to reconnoiter FAPLA positions in Cahama. The pilot was carrying a U.S. passport and was immediately helped by [words indistinct] the aircraft. He is in good health.

Pilot Delivering Plane to RSA

MB260729 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] A colleague of the American pilot of a light civilian aircraft reported to be shot down over Angola area this week says the pilot was flying the aircraft to South Africa to deliver it to the National Airways Corporation. The American colleague, Mr Clark Woodard, identified the pilot as Mr Joe Longo of Greensburg in Pennsylvania. Mr Woodard denied Angolan allegations that Mr Longo was on a spying mission.

The official Angolan news agency said Angolan jet fighters had shot down the aircraft 125 km north of the border with South-West Africa/Namibia. The Angolan reports did not identify the pilot. The agency quoted military officials as saying that the pilot, the only person aboard, was in good condition after being picked up at the site on the crash 160 km from the city of Lubango in southern Cunene Province.

MPLA Sacks ANGOP, JORNAL DE ANGOLA Editors

MB240559 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade Roberto de Almeida, secretary for ideology of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, yesterday reshuffled the national media sector. Accordingly, the editors of ANGOP, Raimundo Sotto Mayor, and *Jornal de Angola*, Mario Guerra, have been relieved of their duties. However, Raimundo Sotto Mayor will remain in charge of ANGOP until his replacement is appointed. Mario Guerra has been replaced by Adelino de Almeida, who has until recently been division chief within the Department of Information and Propaganda of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee.

Meanwhile, Francisco Simons, chief of the information department of Radio Nacional de Angola, has been appointed program director within the Televisao Popular de Angola. These reshuffles were discussed by the Secretariat of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee at a meeting on 7 April.

Assembly Head Leaves for Managua; Stops in Cuba

MB270703 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] The Angolan People's Assembly will be represented in an interparliamentary meeting to be held in Nicaragua. Lucio Lara, the first secretary of the People's Assembly, who will represent Angola in that important forum, has left Luanda for Managua.

On the way to Nicaragua, Lucio Lara stopped over in Havana, Cuba, where he held talks with Jorge Risquet, member of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo. Both men exchanged viewpoints on international politics and on issues of bilateral interest.

FAPLA Forces Thwart UNITA Action in Matala

MB241340 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The FAPLA forces have prevented the UNITA puppets from (?carrying out any type of operation) in Huila Province's Matala municipality.

Fausto Antonio Manuel, Matala municipal commissioner, told ANGOP that the people in that area are deeply committed to defending Matala from the enemy's criminal actions. Matala municipality, which is the third most important urban center in Huila Province, is currently experiencing military calm in the wake of the latest offensives by FAPLA forces and military units consisting of peasants defending their plantations.

UNITA Reports Attacks, Helicopter Downing

MB240722 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Free Land of Angola — UNITA forces shot down one MI-17 military helicopter and destroyed two Soviet-made T-55 tanks in fighting over the past 10 days in four Angolan provinces.

According to a military communique released by the military chief of staff, General Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, 18 transport vehicles were also destroyed during the operations which took place in the provinces of Zaire, Benguela, Lunda and Moxico.

UNITA forces also attacked the 54th FAPLA Brigade, which is supported by Soviets, between the 15th and 18th of April while trying to transport supplies between Luena and Lukusse and forcing it to remain stationary at Lumaka.

During the period, 88 FAPLA soldiers were killed and another 109 wounded. UNITA's casualties were put at 7 dead and 16 wounded.

UNITA forces also blew up the Kakuilo river bridge, southeast of Kapenda Kamulemba in Lunda Province. Fifty-onehand weapons and thousands of rounds of ammunition were also captured.

MOZAMBIQUE

Armed Forces Ready for 'Final' Quelimane Assault

MB211359 Dakar PANA in English 1343 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Quelimane (Mozambique), 21 Apr (AIM/PANA) — The Mozambican Armed Forces are preparing a final assault against a stronghold of South Africa's armed bandits in the central Mozambican province of Quelimane.

In September there was a massive invasion of bandits over the border into Zambezia from neighbouring Malawi. A Mozambican Army offensive begun in December has retaken the districts of Luabo, Mpeia, and Micaune, and Morrumbala and Milange Districts are now the only two districts in the province where bandit activity is still intense. Zambezia has 16 districts.

A bandit base called Alfazema is located in Morrumbala District. This base is regarded as the bandits' main stronghold for the provinces of Zambezia and Tete.

The reorganisation of the Mozambican Armed Forces is already showing some improvements, particularly in Zambezia Province, where the war against armed banditry is currently most intense.

Logistics, which has always been one of the Army's worst problems, have improved substantially. Soldiers in the furthest corners of the province now receive regular supplies and are well armed.

Journalists who arrived by helicopter three hours after a successful battle at an area called "Zero" in the south of the province on the border of Morrumbala District noted that the high morale of the Mozambican troops was clearly visible.

The greater efficiency and fighting morale of the Mozambican Armed Forces has encouraged the local population, who are now better motivated to participate in the fight against the bandits.

Most of the bandits active in Zambezia Province were infiltrated by South Africa through Malawi into the districts of Milange and Morrumbala.

Observers in Quelimane say that the bandits' tight situation in the two districts bordering Malawi might prompt them to try to carry out some sensational action elsewhere in the province to distract attention from Milange and Morrumbala.

RENAMO Kills 70; Destroys Railway, Pipeline

MB230746 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] The antigovernment RENAMO movement in Mozambique says it has blown up a railway, an oil pipeline, and killed 70 government troops in a fresh offensive. In a statement issued in Lisbon, RENAMO said its forces also killed 9 Zimbabwean troops and 15 Tanzanians in attacks between the 14th and 21st of this month. The attacks included the new offensive in the southern provinces of Gaza and Inhambane.

RENAMO said 7 of its fighters were killed in the fighting and 37 were injured. RENAMO said the sabotage of the railway line linking Maputo to Zimbabwe took place last week. A large section of the track between Chicualacuala and Chokwe in the Gaza Province was destroyed. RENAMO's sabotage of the pipeline which carries oil from the port of Beira to Zimbabwe also took place last week with a section of the pipeline being blown up.

The statement listed a number of RENAMO attacks, including one on the town of Canicado Guija in the Gaza Province, as well as on army barracks in that province and in the Province of Maputo.

NAMIBIA

SWATF Reports 36 SWAPO Insurgents Killed

MB231703 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1641 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Windhoek April 23 SAPA — South African-led security forces in Northern SWA/Namibia shot and killed 36 SWAPO insurgents in various skirmishes in the last two weeks, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek tonight.

The latest SWAPO fatalities brought to 446 the number of insurgents who died in action since the beginning of this year. The security forces suffered no losses in the latest clashes.

The SWATF said in a statement that two civilians were killed by SWAPO insurgents while 12 school-children were abducted to Angola from their homes near Etale in northern SWA/Namibia. Three of the children managed to return home. One of the civilians killed was bayoneted and another was shot five times with a Makarov pistol.

On Tuesday this week, 12 SWAPO insurgents attacked a village near Ongandjera in northern SWA/Namibia with mortar bombs and small arms fire and eight of the insurgents were killed in follow-up operations. A member of the homeguard was wounded in the attack.

The SWATF statement said two schools and a clinic in Ovambo were sabotaged on Saturday and Tuesday. There were no casualties but the buildings were badly damaged in the explosions.

A schoolgirl died in a stand-off bombardment on a school at Onhangwena by SWAPO insurgents on March 12, the SWATF said.

"The sabotage of schools must be seen as a deliberate effort to paralyse the education system in Ovambo, to make children more accessible for promises of better schooling in other countries," the statement said.

Nujoma Says SWAPO Ready for Cease-Fire Under UN

MB270731 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] The South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO's president, Comrade Sam Nujoma, says his organization is ready to sign a cease-fire agreement with South Africa under United Nations Resolution 435. In an interview with ZIANA yesterday, Comrade Nujoma said United Nations Security Council on Namibia [as heard] has failed to find a solution to the conflict in the area.

Sam Nujoma also charged the United States with complicity with the apartheid regime in South Africa, resulting in continued illegal occupation of Namibia by Pretoria. He expressed his gratitude to the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement for the support given to SWAPO.

SWAPO Communique Recaps Jan-Mar Advances

MB251105 Dakar PANA in English 1056 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Lusaka, 25 April (PANA) — The People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), the armed wing of the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), opened the 1987 offensive on a high note giving a clear signal to the racist South African occupation army that the war of liberation will be intensified to new heights.

According to a SWAPO first quarter 1987 communique, covering the period January-March, dated 15 April 1987, released to PANA yesterday the effectiveness and victories of PLAN combatants on the battle field had even been admitted by the enemy in a rare moment of truth.

A communique issued in Windhoek recently by the army of occupation in Namibia stated officially that the first three months of 1987 showed a marked increase in the intensity of the war. That communique openly admitted that casualties on the side of the so-called South-West Africa Territory Force (SWATF) had multiplied over the last three months, although, as usual, no figures or futher details were divulged.

The SWAPO communique gives details of PLAN action in the period. These included ambushes on units of occupation forces, attacks on military bases, shooting down of enemy helicopter gunships, and open battles. In all there were more than 130 combat actions.

The enemy suffered serious casualties. PLAN combatants killed 128 occupation soldiers, wounded 220 others, destroyed more than 54 military vehicles, shot down three enemy helicopter gunships, carried out more than 50 sabotage actions and attacked 20 enemy military bases. Tons of war materials were destroyed including three cannons. Enemy communication lines were widely disrupted (?when they) became increasing targets of PLAN sabotage units, who constantly blew them up.

Between January and March, PLAN combatants vigourously advanced on the battle front forcing the enemy to retreat in many battles. The war of liberation is now being effectively felt in the so-called police zone (or white areas) where white farmers are now fleeing before the advancing and victorious PLAN combatants, as the army of occupation can no longer guarantee their security, says the communique.

SWAPO warned at the beginning of the year that the prowess, sophistication and advanced combat skill demonstrated by the PLAN last year, will be heightened during the 1987 offensive in line with the year's clarion call: rededication to liberation.

The communique concludes that the picture emerging in war-torn Namibia this year is of an escalation in the fighting with PLAN increasingly gaining the upper hand to the extent that the enemy, including South African Defence Minister Magnus Malan, had to admit the fact.

SOUTH AFRICA

SADF Kills 5 ANC Members in Zambia Raid

'Terrorist' Facilities Hit

MB250727 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0726 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria, April 25, SAPA — South Africa today killed five ANC members in a raid into Livingstone in Zambia, army headquarters announced.

The raid took place early this morning and all SADF forces returned to their bases without suffering any casualties.

An Army spokesman said there had been no contact with Zambian Government forces.

The raid in the Dambwa suburb of Livingstone destroyed two "terrorists transit facilities" one of which was used as a weapon store.

The first clash took place in Mosi-o-tunya street in Livingstone itself between the SADF reconnaissance team and what was described as "terrorist guards." Two guards were killed.

The second clash took place at a "terrorist transit facility" known as Mango House in the Dambwa suburb on the outskirts of Livingstone. Three terrorists were shot dead there and this facility was destroyed. A further facility used as a weapon store in the suburb was also destroyed.

The Army headquarters announcement said the clashes occurred when an SADF reconnaissance was investigating a "terrorist infiltration route from Zambia to Botswana. Terrorists were observed in the early stages of this reconnaissance but no action was then taken because it would have compromised further reconnaissance. During this further reconnaissance of the terrorist movement control in Mosi-o-tunya street in Livingstone the presence of some members of the reconnaissance team was discovered.

"A skirmish ensued and two terrorist guards were killed.

"The contact was then broken off. During further reconnaissance contact was also made with three terrorists at the terrorist transit facility, the so called Mango House in the Dambwa suburb on the outskirts of Livingstone.

"All three were shot dead and this facility was destroyed.

"A further facility, also in the Dambwa suburb which was used as a weapons store was also destroyed. All the members of SADF have returned to their base."

Further From SADF on Raid

MB261950 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1935 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria April 26 SAPA — ANC "terrorist commanders" apparently meet "ANC terrorists" at Lusaka Airport with the full knowledge of the Zambian authorities before insurgents leave on an infiltration route leading towards South Africa, the SADF said in a statement in Pretoria tonight.

The South African Defence Force also released a map detailing the location of two "ANC facilities" SADF raiders destroyed early yesterday near Livingstone, a resort town on the Zambian side of the Victoria Falls.

The SADF said in a statement yesterday that five ANC members were shot — and at least two killed — when SADF commandos surveying a "terrorist infiltration route from Zambia through Botswana" were detected. Reports from Zambia say four people were killed. Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda told the BBC that the dead were Zambian citizens.

Zambian officials said the attackers arrived by helicopter and reached their targets on motorcycles.

In tonight's statement, the SADF said after arriving at Lusaka Airport, some insurgents were taken to "Mango House" in Livingstone's suburb of Dambwa.

"From there they are then taken across the Zambezi River and placed on the infiltration route through Livingstone-Francistown-Gaborone. Mango House does not have permanent occupants, but was used as a transit facility for the use of ANC terrorists," the statement said.

The statement provided no further information on the dead who, Zambia's President Kaunda charged, were not terrorists.

The uncalibrated map — which is in fact a rough sketch plan — shows how Dambwa can be reached by crossing a railway line running parallel to the Livingstone-Kazungula road, and the location of "Mango House" and the "weapons store" destroyed by the commandos.

The full statement reads:

"Further to the statement released on Saturday 25 April 1987, SA army Headquarters makes the following additional information available:

"A. A sketch plan of the location of the two ANC facilities in Livingstone;

"B. It appears that ANC terrorists are met at the Lusaka Airport by senior Umkonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation — ANC military wing] terrorist commanders. These arriving groups are flown in exclusively with the full knowledge of the Zambian authorities.

"C. Some of them are then taken to Mango House. From there they are then taken across the Zambezi River and placed on the infiltration route through Livingstone-Francistown-Gaborone.

"D. Mango House does not have permanent occupants, but was used as a transit facility for the use of ANC terrorists."

Meanwhile observers in Zimbabwe say the raid could complicate the case of eight South Africans detained at Kariba almost two weeks ago. The men had driven to Kariba from Victoria Falls along a "little-used" road, after having entered Zimbabwe from Botswana in four-wheel-drive vehicles. They had planned to go on a canoeing trip down the Zambezi River to Chirundu — a town situated where the main road between Harare and Lusaka crosses the river.

The South African Department of Foreign Affairs said tonight it had no further information about the men's detention. They were named as H.M. Bontuys, W. Kruger, P. Rademan, P. Gous, M. Swart, B. Rocher, A Erasmus and G.Crafford.

Malan Defends 'Reconnaissance'

MB251546 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1545 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria April 25 SAPA — The following is the text of Minister of Defence General Magnus Malan's statement on the SADF's reconnaissance into Zambia today;

"The armed reconnaissance which the Defence Force carried out in Zambia today was of limited scope and had a limited objective.

"As a result of the threatening situation facing South Africa regular reconnaissance is vital. South Africa cannot afford to be caught off guard. It is obvious that a reconnaissance of this kind has to be carried out withweapons.

"Such reconnaissance are conducted because South Africa protects its own interest and people. South Africa reserves this recognised international law for itself. Because of this obligation South Africa has a clear message for the world and southern Africa. The time is now ripe to draw clear distinctions in southern Africa. South Africa stands for a broadening of democracy which everyone in the country can share, but the ideal of freedom for South Africa is posed by certain countries in southern Africa and from the ranks of the ANC with its South African Communist Party-Moscow links must result in a people's democracy.

"This people's democracy implies in political terms as it appears from conditions in Angola, Moscow, Zambia and Eastern bloc countries, a one party dictatorship of the working class. In economy terms it implies nationalisation and the removal of initiative.

"If leaders in southern Africa permit this revolutionary political system to be exported to South Africa, then they must realise that we [are] following different paths and we are going to collide with one another.

"One unfortunately gets the impression that the West and specifically the USA with its demands for a non-racial democracy and negotiation with the ANC has not taken South Africa determination and purposefulness into account. South Africa is taking a stand against a political ideal which can only lead to chaos.

"The Republic has a special responsibility towards the business community to ensure that private initiative develops spontaneously. This is not possible in a people's democracy. It is against this background that for years South Africa has warned its neighbours and requested them not to provide terrorists with bases and transit routes.

"South Africa has gone out of its way to invite neighbouring states to create a joint instrument to deal with, among other things, security matters. The offer was made by the state president in parliament on Jan 31, 1986. To date this offer has been ignored but the exporting of revolution to South Africa has continued.

"On April 9 this year the minister of foreign affairs lifted the wraps on terrorists plans to disrupt South Africa in May and June through violence and terror. As minister of defence I agree wholeheartedly.

"Neighbouring states were recently again warned in public and through diplomatic and other channels. The fact that some countries have taken these warnings to heart is encouraging.

"Thabo Mbeki, the ANC publicity secretary, said as recently as April 12, that the ANC received no support from neighbouring states. The ANC facilities which were destroyed in Zambia this morning proved the contrary.

"It is highly unlikely that the Zambian authorities were unaware of this. There will certainly deny it but President Kaunda is welcome to come and discuss the matter with South Africa.

"Spokesman on various defence study groups in parliament were briefed on the afternoon of Saturday April 25, by the army on the reconnaissance."

Pretoria MP Comments

MB252010 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2022 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria, Apr 25, SAPA — Mr Rex le Roux, MP for Pretoria West, who attended a SA Defence Force briefing this afternoon, said the purpose of the South African incursion into Zambia was to obtain information to protect its citizens. He said from Pretoria:

"After attending an intelligence meeting given by the SADF to certain members of parliament, and where a former ANC member provided pertinent information, it is very clear that the information collection action (reconnaissance) launched recently by the South African army in Livingstone was nothing else than to obtain information so that our army could protect the inhabitants of our country — white, brown, Asiatic and black — from the horrifying acts of terror planned against the peace loving people of our country."

Mr Roux, who is also chairman of the House of Assembly, continued: "This action would not have been necessary if all neighbouring countries respected the sovereignity of our country properly.

"There is every reason to believe that the ANC had the goal, with their planned insurgency, to bring about, through violence, terror and disruption in white areas, the transport services, the energy providing services, etc, in the coming days. Because of this action by the army, their onslaught will be less effective — for this everyone in our country owes thanks to the army.

"They are busy, despite the expected overseas hysteria, carrying out their duty in the interests of South Africa. They were forced to act as the result of the tacit and clear assistance of certain countries with the plans of the ANC."

"We expect it of our army, and they have never disappointed in this.

"Countries that purposefully allow terrorists to enjoy their facilities and protection with a view to the destabilisation of our sub-continent, are knowingly going against the interests of every South African who is trying, through cooperation, to initiate real reform in South Africa with a view to ensuring a safe future for our country.

"We take each others hands in this, irrespective of political persuasions. Let there be no misunderstanding about the army's action, the action was unavoidable and forced upon South Africa. The interests of South Africa come first," he said.

ANC Calls Attack 'Murder'

MB251655 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1653 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Johannesburg Apr 25 SAPA — The minister of defence, Gen Magnus Malan, has defended South Africa's attack today in the Zambian town of Livingstone that killed five alleged African National Congress members. [passage omitted]

The ANC said in Lusaka all those killed and injured were innocent Zambian civilians.

"The ANC has no military personnel in Zambia, Tanzania or any of the countries of southern Africa which the Bothas have lyingly claimed are harbouring our armed cadres," the ANC said.

"We are certain that this latest unforgivable act of murder and state terrorism will not succeed to intimidate the heroic people of Zambia nor, indeed, those of southern Africa as a whole.

"The ANC and the masses of our people will continue to intensify the offensive against the criminal apartheid regime from within South Africa and not the neighboring states," the ANC said. [passage omitted]

The ANC today pledged its solidarity with the party, the government and the people of Zambia and the region. "We further extend our condolences to the families of those who were murdered in Livingstone by Pretoria's crazed killer squads," the ANC said.

SACP's Joe Slovo Comments

MB251913 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The secretary general of the SACP, Comrade Joe Slovo, told the ZBC today that the murder of the four Zambian civilians by the Botha regime is not surprising. Comrade Slovo added that the forthcoming May election may have (?influenced) the decision to resume (?incursions), and that the attack was a mere export of voter's problems to a neighboring country.

Pik Botha on U.S. Reports on Angolan Proposals

MB241917 Johannesburg Television Service
in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has reacted in Pretoria to U.S. reports that Angola is planning new proposals on the issue of Namibian independence in exchange for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from that country. Replying to a question, Mr Botha said the Angolan proposals, referred to by an official spokesman in Washington yesterday, had not been brought to his attention and he could not comment until that had been done. According to the U.S. spokesman, Angola made the prosposals in Brazzaville on 5 April.

Referring to a statement by Mr Charles Redman in Washington yesterday, the minister said he welcomed the U.S. condemnation of the attack on municipal police. However, Mr Botha said he was surprised that the U.S. Government was calling on the South African Government to institute an independent inquiry into the incidents during which the South African police were forced to act to maintain law and order. He said he was surprised that a spokesman for the U.S. Government was apparently not aware that in South Africa the necessary machinery existed to establish the facts objectively in cases of this nature.

Mr Botha said the South African Government rejected interference of this kind in the country's internal processes of justice. Mr Botha's reference was to a statement made in Washington yesterday by Mr Charles Redman, official spokesman for the U.S. State Department.

Court Rejects News Coverage Restrictions

MB241156 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1150 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Pietermaritzburg, April 24, SAPA — Mr Justice Page and Mr Justice Galgut, sitting in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court, today set aside the state president's proclamation prohibiting certain news coverage of security actions, deployment of security forces and equipment and news of restricted gatherings.

This prohibition in the Government Gazette inhibited the media from carrying certain unrest reports.

Judgement was given after an application by the United Democratic Front and the Release Mandela Committee for the setting aside of certain measures implemented by the government.

Mr Rudolph Hiemstra, who appeared for the state president, the government, the ministers of home affairs and of law and order and the commissioner of police, said he was instructed to apply for leave to appeal against today's judgement. It was expected that this could be today.

The lodging of the application for leave to appeal would suspend the effect of today's judgement.

The judges sent aside, among other things, Regulations 3(1) A, B and part of C in a *Government Gazette* proclamation (dated December 11 last year and signed by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and Mr A.L. Schlebusch).

These regulations read:

3(1) subject to subregulation (4) no person shall publish or cause to be published any publication, television recording, film recording or sound recording containing news or comment on or in connection with:

(A) any security action;

(B) Any deployment of a security force, or of vehicles, armaments, equipment or other appliances, which to a reasonable bystander would appear to be for the purposes of security action;

(C) (SAPA note: the part of this clause set aside is in parentheses) any restricted gathering, in so far as such news or comment (discloses at any time before the gathering takes place, the time, the date, place or purposes of such gathering, or) gives an account of any speech, statement or remark of any speaker who performed at the gathering in contravention of a condition, prohibition or requirement determined or imposed under a law mentioned in the definition of restricted gathering.

Another item in a *Government Gazette* of January 29 was set aside. This was part of proclamation on the regulations under the Public Safety Act in which they were amended to include "advertisements" in the prohibition.

The judges declared to be void and of no force or effect in law the following:

(1) The definition of security action in Regulation 1(1).

(2) Paragraphs 6 and 9 of the definition of subversive statement.

(3) The definition of unrest in Regulation 1(1)

(4) Regulation 1(2).

(5) The words "unrest" and "or security action" and "or action" wherever they appear in Regulation 2.

(6) Regulation 3(1) (a)(b) and (part of c).

The respondents were ordered to pay the applicant's costs.

Advertising Rules Lifted

MB241208 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1200 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Pietermaritzburg April 24 SAPA — In another judgment in the Pietermartizburg Supreme Court today, in a case between the United Democratic Front and the state president, the government, the commissioner of police and the minister of law and order, Mr Justice Page and Mr Justice Galgut set aside certain regulations proclaimed in the *Government Gazette* of January 29, 1987. Their judgment was that:

— Regulation 3(1)(a) (of the regulations proclaimed on December 11) is of no force and effect (it included in a prohibition on publications, television recordings and film and sound recordings the words "or advertisement").

— Order No 238 published in the *Government Gazette* number 10605 by the commissioner of police is of no force and effect.

The order said, among other things: "No publisher of a periodical shall publish any periodical containing an advertisement on or in connection with an organisation which is an unlawful organisation in terms of the Internal Security Act 1982 (Act 74 of 1982), defending, praising or endeavouring to justify any of such organisations campaigns, projects, programmes, actions or policies of violence or resistance against, or of subversion of, the authority of the state or any local authorities, or of any violence against, or of intimidation of, any persons or persons belonging to any particular category of persons."

(This followed the countrywide advertisement marking the 75th anniversary of the African National Congress).

The respondents were ordered to pay the costs.

Newspaper Office Searched

MB250513 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0055 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Port Elizabeth April 24 SAPA — Two security policemen with a search warrant seized material in the *Eastern Province Herald* office today that dealt with the full-page advertisement published by the newspaper on the detention of children. The warrant empowered them to take stencils, documents receipts and receipt books.

The advertisement had been published after legal advice from two firms of lawyers that it was indeed permissible in terms of the police commissioner's recently proclaimed restrictions on campaigning for the release of detainees. The advertisement was in the name of the Southern Africa Project, Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Washington, D.C.

Among other newspapers to run the advertisement were the *Cape Times* in Cape Town and *The Star* in Johannesburg, both of which reported no police action in connection with the advertisement.

P.W. Botha Pledges to Improve Tricameral System

MB231727 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1600 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says the tricameral parliament is successful and will be improved on in time. Speaking at a public meeting at Stellenboch, Mr Botha says after the election steps would be taken to proceed with the proposed national council.

[Begin video recording] [Botha] The fact is, we have said these are the first steps. As we go along we will improve this system, and we are busy improving it. We have improved it to the extent that we are adding an extra chamber to the parliament building where joint debates can take place, where discussions can be held on votes like that of the state president, and also on other important votes of mutual interest. In other words, the system is busy improving itself. So it is not true that it is not working. It is working. It may be true that at times it does not work smoothly, but anything which is new will have growing pains in the beginning. I do not believe there is a single person in parliament who, if asked his honest opinion, would say we must return to the situation which existed before this tricameral parliament was instituted.

[Reporter Andre le Roux] The president also referred to the proposed national council. He said the government is in earnest about getting this council off the ground after the electiton, and of including blacks.

[Botha] Then we will give the black leaders the opportunity to come forward. But we will also give those communities which have no leaders the opportunity to choose their leaders, so they can come forward and talk to us. We are prepared for consultation. We are prepared for proper deliberation. But we are not prepared to surrender. [end video recording]

Gen Malan Says U.S. Congress' Demands Impossible

MB230538 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0120 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Verwoerdburg, April 22, SAPA — South Africa would not be able to meet the demands the United States Congress made when it implemented its sanctions bill last October with the threat of further punitive measures if these were not met, the Minister of Defence General Magnus Malan said tonight.

Speaking to about 100 people at a National Party meeting in the Verwoerdburg town hall, he said no political party would be able, if it came to power, to establish a "non-racial democratic society" by October this year, which was one of Congress' demands.

It was also not possible to lift the state of emergency at this stage to satisfy congress.

"It is in any event not really a state of emergency, it is more a state of security," he said.

General Malan dealt extensively with the communist orchestrated revolutionary onslaught against South Africa and although he warned that the enemies' threat should not be underestimated, he gave the assurance that "as sure as two times two makes four we will win the fight".

Gen Malan said the Progressive Federal Party, certain businessmen, students and academics maintained this revolutionary onslaught could be simply resolved through dialogue.

However, there were three types of dialogue with the first one being "talking for the sake of talking" which was a typical characteristic of the PFP's right-wing who were always "trying to sweep reality and problems under the carpet".

This was no platform for dialogue because reality was being ignored.

The second type of dialogue, which was typical of the left-wing of the PFP, was aimed at nothing more than the transfer of power to the African National Congress as the so-called only true representative of the people.

Gen Malan said the third type, with which the NP government associated itself, was one which addressed the roots of the problems with a vision of the future and a sober evaluation of problems, chances and opportunities.

"This is not capitulation or talks for talks sake."

This type of dialogue was a search for common interests which could be discussed while at the same time own interests were upheld.

Such dialogue had to take place along the principle of civilised values and norms, an extension of democracy in its western sense and the development of private initiative as a cornerstone of rapid economic development.

Gen Malan said the ANC was a violent force which aimed at installing an elite clique of black rulers in South Africa and that the organisation could therefore not be negotiated with.

Malan Says Democracy Needed to Repel 'Onslaught'

MB210944 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0900 GMT 21 Apr 87

[Text] Minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, says a government system which offers everybody a right to be democratically involved up to the highest levels is needed against the background of the signs of a revolutionary onslaught. Opening a symposium on government and administration in Durban this morning, Gen Malan said this political philosophy, which had been the one adopted by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, held the key to stability, dignity, and development.

Gen Malan said, although the republic was not embroiled in a revolution, the signs of a revolutionary onslaught were evident throughout the spectrum of South African society. He said these signs were of violence and terrorism, intimidation, propaganda, strikes, and the disruption of systems. He said the sole aim of this onslaught was an attack on the citizens by attempting to drive a wedge between them and the authorities. In doing this, the revolutionary did not follow any rules, because he did not have to account to anybody for his actions and used every possible means to overthrow the system. The revolutionary worked on perceptions, using disinformation to promote his message that the people were unsafe and the government unable to protect them.

Heunis 'Embarrassed' by Report of U.S. Support

MB261352 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1100 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Constitutional Development Minister Chris Heunis has been embarrassed after revelations he received large donations from an American millionaire. The National Party move to discredit Mr Heunis' independent election opponent Denis Worrall has backfired after the revelations. The National Party cast doubt on Dr Worrall's sources of funding, and there were allegations that money was coming from overseas. American (Robert Hall) says he paid 10,000 rands to the National Party last year after an appeal by Mr Heunis. But Dr (Hall) says he is now disillusioned with the Nationalists and is switching his support to Dr Worrall. It's believed Mr Heunis' embarrassment may affect his chances of reelection in the Cape seat of Helderberg. He and Dr Worrall are said to be running neck and neck in the campaign.

Transkei Police Head Denies U.S. Priest Tortured

MB250516 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0039 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Umtata April 24 SAPA — Transkei authorities have denied allegations by an American Catholic priest, Father Casimir Paulsen, that he was ill-treated and tortured during nearly three months of detention. Father Paulsen made the allegations at a reception in his honour hosted by two Democratic senators in his home state of Michigan.

The head of the Transkei Security Police, General Leonard Kawe, said the priest had been allowed to see a representative from the United States Consulate in Durban and had made no mention of being ill-treated. Father Paulsen had also seen a magistrate in private and again had made no complaint.

Gen Kawe alleged Father Paulsen had harboured two men the police wanted in connection with an attack on the Umtata police station. He had said it was his moral duty as a Catholic to hide people running from the police irrespective of the crime.

Gen Kawe said the priest was "concocting stories" about Transkei.

When asked about the condition of the cell described by the priest, General Kawe replied he was treated as any other prisoner. He added that Father Paulsen's colleagues were even allowed to bring him food and clothing parcels.

Durban Police Kill 3 'Insurgents' in Shootout

MB240914 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0910 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria, April 24, SAPA — Three suspected African National Congress insurgents were killed and four policemen injured — one "fairly seriously" — in a gun and handgrenade battle in Umlazi just south of Durban early this morning, the SAP said. Police said in a statement issued by headquarters in Pretoria members of the divisional anti-riot squad in Durban went to a house in Umlazi's "Section N" early this morning "as a result of information received."

Earlier reports said a routine patrol was fired upon.

The house was surrounded by police and the occupants warned to get out, the statement said. Two black women came out through the front door.

"Simultaneously, a weapon was heard being cocked inside the house and shortly thereafter, the back door was opened. A black male emerged and began firing at police with an AK47 assault rifle. Police returned fire and the black male fled back into the house. During this exchange of fire, both the black male and a policeman were wounded. The latter sustained fairly serious head and shoulder injuries."

Later, "another black male stormed through the front door and was shot dead by the police." "Audible warnings" to surrender were ignored and the police hurled handgrenades into the house. "A furious exchange of gunfire ensued. The house caught alight (probably due to the handgrenade explosions) and was completely gutted. After the fire had been extinguished, the bodies of two black men and two AK47 rifles were found in the remains of the house.

"Three policemen sustained slight chest and leg injuries during the skirmish (this excludes the member wounded in the initial exchange of gunfire).

"Intensive police investigations are being conducted."

SATS Completes Dismissal of 16,000 Strikers

MB241241 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1237 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Johannesburg April 24 SAPA — The dismissal of 16,000 striking railway workers was completed last night, South African Transport Services [SATS] spokesman, Mr Jannie van Zyl said this morning. He said re-recruitment of the fired workers would begin on Monday.

SATS said in a statement last night "large numbers" of the strikers were queuing up for re-employment. No decision had yet been taken on what SATS would do regarding the accrued service benefits of dismissed workers.

In the meantime 900 people had been employed so "SATS could continue its services unbated as it has been doing for the past couple of weeks," yesterday's statement said.

Mr van Zyl denied the dismissed people were evicted from SATS hostel — "no date has yet been set for them to leave the hostels."

The South African Railway and Harbour Workers Union [SARHWU] said yesterday their members were being evicted from a hostel on the Reef.

Congress of South African Trade Unions spokesman Mr Jay Naidoo said COSATU and SARHWU, a COSATU affiliate, were still deciding what action to take after police raided their offices two days ago. Six people were killed during the raid and another confrontation in Germiston.

In the Rand Supreme Court yesterday COSATU brought an action against the police in connection with the incidented in Germiston. In an affidavit before the court Mr Naidoo said the police committed unprovoked and vicious assaults on railway workers who were holding a peaceful meeting.

The police deny the allegations and will present affidavits on Monday supporting their version of events.

A SARHWU spokesman in Germiston said dismissed workers at the SATS hostel there had not been given an ultimatum to leave the premises. "But many of them are leaving and going home anyway," he said.

He said some were considering re-applying for their jobs.

Soweto Said 'Back to Normal' After 'Stayaway'

MB270747 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0701 GMT 27 Apr 87

[Text] Johannesburg, April 27, SAPA — Life seemed back to normal in Soweto today as thousands of workers boarded buses, trains and taxis to work after last week's three-day work stayaway.

The calm that prevailed in the township on the first working day after the stayaway was in sharp contrast to last Wednesday to

Friday's tense atmosphere which was, in some instances, marred by violence.

The rocks, tree stumps and other rubble used to barricade streets in the townships have been removed and youths who enforced the stayaway were out of sight this morning.

Thousands of workers streamed to stations, taxi ranks and bus stops.

Traffic along the old Potchefstroom/Baragwanath roads and the Soweto freeway was flowing as usual.

A spokesman for PUTCO [Public Utility Transport Corporation] said all was back to normal and that the company had restored all buses withdrawn from the township last week.

Information Bureau Issues Unrest Reports

23 Apr Unrest Report

MB241050 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1048 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria, April 24, SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Information's unrest report for today:

"Unrest report period 00h01 to 24h00 (23 April)

"A black man, Mandla Xhosa, 22, was murdered by a group of black youths in Naledi (Soweto) yesterday when they doused him with paraffin and set him alight. No arrests have yet been made and police investigations are continuing.

"In another incident in Naledi (Soweto) 2 black men were arrested while erecting a barricade in a public road.

"At Sibekizulu Secondary School in Imbali (Pietermaritzburg) tension sparked off between pupils and white teachers yesterday. The pupils started stoning the teachers and one of the teachers fired a shot into the air to calm the group. One teacher was slightly injured and a youth was arrested under the emergency regulations.

"Two black men sustained slight burns when a group of about 20 blacks petrol-bombed their vehicle in Guguletu (Cape Town) yesterday. No arrests were made.

"Unidentified persons threw a handgrenade at the Phomolong Station (Soweto) yesterday. The assailants then fled and no arrests were made. No injuries or damages were reported.

"Several stoning incidents occurred in Soweto yesterday causing minimal damage. No injuries or arrests were reported."

24 Apr Unrest Report

MB251021 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1020 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The following is the Bureau for Information's unrest report.

"Unrest report for period 00h01 to 24h00 on April 24:

"During the 24 hour period until April 24 a slight increase in the number of unrest related incidents in comparison with the previous day was reported.

"The majority of incidents, however, constituted stone throwing.

"In Soweto several groups of black youths in various incidents stoned private as well as police vehicles. Relatively slight damage was caused and although the police in some cases had to use tear smoke and in one case one round of buck shot to disperse the mobs, nobody was injured or arrested.

"In Dobsonville approximately 20 blacks threw a petrol bomb at a bus causing slight damage.

"Five black women — names and ages unknown were however slightly injured during this incident. Nobody was arrested.

"In Chesterville black residential area, Durban, a member of the security forces was slightly injured during a stone throwing attack on a private home.

"At the University of Cape Town at about 14h15 placards were displayed at an outside gathering of about 150 blacks. Members of the police force who arrived on the scene were stoned and the crowd were dispersed with tear smoke.

"This incident was followed by various other stone-throwing incidents at the university where police were stoned and where tear smoke was used to disperse the rioters.

"A member of the police force was injured in one of these incidents when he was hit in the back by a stone. No arrests were made.

"At about 15h35 a group of approximately 100 blacks set a large delivery truck alight on the campus. Damage of approximately R120,000 was caused in this incident.

"At Vereeniging Station on the west Rand a group of blacks intimidated passengers to boycott the trains. A number of blacks were arrested under the emergency regulations."

25 Apr Unrest Report

MB261007 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1004 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] Pretoria, April 26, SAPA — Herewith the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 00h01-24h00 on April 25:

"Only a few unrest-related incidents were reported during the above period.

"In Soweto, plus minus 40 blacks set a private home alight, causing extensive damage (approximately R10,000). Nobody was at home during the incident and nobody was injured or arrested. The motive for this arson is not known.

"In another incident, a group of blacks stoned two buses and caused slight damage. Nobody was injured.

"Also in Soweto, six blacks hurled a petrol bomb at a private vehicle and caused damage of approximately R12,000. Nobody was injured or arrested.

"At Dube railway station in Soweto, unknown persons fired 10 shots with an unknown calibre firearm at the security forces. Nobody was injured and no arrests were made.

"In Umbali black township in Pietermaritzburg, approximately 50 blacks stoned a private vehicle and then attacked the passengers with knives. One black man and four black women, all over 30 years of age, were treated for stab wounds at the hospital. The injured were all members of Inkatha, and incidentally arrived at the funeral of a UDF member. The vehicle was also damaged in this attack, but nobody has been arrested yet.

"In the Kleinskool coloured residential area near Port Elizabeth, a group of blacks and coloureds damaged a private motor vehicle when it was stoned. No injuries were sustained and the motive for the attack is also unknown."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

25 Apr Press Review

MB250459 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN: NP Needs To Be More Specific

It seems as if the government has decided "that the way to fight the election is not to deal with specifics but generalities," Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 24 April says in a page 6 editorial. "We certainly hoped to hear more about what the government intends to do and how it intends to go about attracting Blacks to the negotiating table. But at least there is one positive theme that runs through it all — the government is seeking a mandate to bring Blacks into a new dispensation." The government has been criticized in the past for prescribing to others, so "one can hardly expect it to provide a hard-and-fast blueprint now. Still, a little more clarity on how minorities are to be protected, and what constitutional models are available that would embrace acceptable principles, would inject greater thrust into the National Party's election campaign."

STAR: SATS 'Playing Ostrich'

South African Transport Services [SATS] management "will have to adopt a more professional approach" than dismissing workers in their next labor dispute, Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 24 April observes in a page 12 editorial. "Instead of playing ostrich and denying the existence of SARHWU [South African Railway and Harbors Workers Union] by refusing to meet its leaders, SATS could follow the trail blazed by private companies. Call the union to account; accept SARHWU's challenge of a ballot to determine its support and recognize it if necessary." "Most vital of all, there is a duty to bargain enshrined in decisions of the Industrial Court which SATS does not appear to have accepted."

'Ironic Twist' to Job Reservation

"The strike of black SATS workers has given an ironic twist to job reservation" as young white men line up for jobs sweeping station platforms, the paper notes in another editorial on the same page. "The long-term effect of job reservation has been to run the country at half-speed while hastening polarisation. In broad principle the 'haves' were white and the 'have-nots' were black. It made a mockery of apartheid undertakings to offer equal opportunity to develop. Only one of many injustices, it nevertheless contributed in large measure to bring the country to its present irony — a battered economy which has forced young white men to be grateful for the opportunity to sweep station platforms for a pittance."

Five Freedoms Forum: Freedom of Expression, Association

Continuing its series on the Five Freedoms Forum, *The Star* carries an article by Gilbert Marcus, a senior research officer at the Center for Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, on the importance of freedom of expression and association. Marcus writes that "South Africa has become a society devastated by a pervasive system of censorship" which "serves to filter out certain ideas as a means of controlling and suppressing the articulation of opposition to a particular political, social and economic dispensation." "Perhaps the greatest evil of censorship is that it precludes rational decision making on questions of vital importance. An individual who is deliberately kept ignorant of events and opinions and who is forced to rely upon 'official' or 'authorised' news can never discover the truth and can never exercise an informed judgment."

The ignorance created by censorship is "compounded by restrictions on the freedom of association, generally regarded as a crucial adjunct to the freedom of expression. The nature of the divisions in society created by the system of race classification and group areas has forced black and white to live in worlds apart." Although the government defends its restrictions on freedom of expression and association as being in the national interest, it is doubtful that these "draconian" measures "will ultimately be conducive to lasting peace and good order. The opposite may well be true. As the avenues of peaceful protest, whether by word or deed, are cut off, the danger increases that opposition will find violent expression."

Unrest Dominates Election Campaign

"With less than two weeks left before white voters go to the polls, the security question has emerged as one of the biggest election issues," political reporter Colleen Ryan writes on page 12 of *The Star*. "The National Party has used the revolutionary threat to win back support from the right wing," but the NP has also "used the security issue to good advantage against the PFP." "The PFP has had to modify its advertising campaign to meet these NP tactics and took the first steps last Sunday with an anti-communism advertisement in national newspapers."

BUSINESS DAY: NP 'Record of Failure' on Security

"The National Party, inept from the start at political compromise, has always put its faith in repression," Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 24 April says in a page 8 editorial.

It has banned the SACP and the ANC and used "police raids, detention without trial, cross-border raids, and intensive military action." Despite these "blunt-instrument methods," however, the country has seen the security threat "shifted from Angola to the main streets of our cities," while "intimidation has gone from beatings to necklacing, even to public necklacing on television, and the police seem powerless — despite their special powers and the suppression of news — to uphold the law against murder." The NP has "an impeccable record of failure to deal with security threats."

CAPE TIMES: NP Claim 'Dishonest'

Commenting on a National Party slogan claiming that "a vote for the Progressive Federal Party/New Republic Party/ Independent movement is effectively a vote for the African National Congress," Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 22 April notes in a page 8 editorial that the only thing the reform alliance and the ANC have in common is their opposition to apartheid. "To claim that opposition to apartheid means support of the ANC and its strategies is not only illogical, it is also intellectually dishonest. It is dishonest because the alliance movement, with its emphasis on democracy, human rights, minority protection and free enterprise, clearly has very different policies and priorities from the ANC, with its emphasis on one-man-one-vote in a unitary state and socialism. It is also dishonest because the alliance movement, which is working for change through Parliament and the white electorate, has entirely different strategies from the ANC which is committed to violence."

'Barbarous' Detention of Children

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper says "the proclamation which attempts to outlaw campaigns against detention without trial has fastened attention more strongly than ever on this infamous system and has awakened the public conscience to the plight of children in detention. By any civilized standards the detention of children is a barbarous practice."

CAPE TIMES on Alliance Strategy

In an editorial on page 8, Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 23 April notes that "the Independents believe that they can more easily gain the confidence of disillusioned Nationalists if they are at some distance from the PFP. They are right. Yet it is Mr Eglin's alliance strategy which "has provided the opening for the Independents to make their mark. The ultimate success of this strategy will be dependent on the disintegration of the NP at some point after May 6, leading to a moderate alliance taking shape on one side — and a reactionary grouping forming on the other." "In parliamentary politics, certainly, Mr Eglin's statesmanlike approach is the only game in town, for the Independents as much as anyone else. No one can say how long this approach will take to reach maturity and in precisely what shape and form it will do so. But the strategy of the alliance offers hope for the future, which is something the country needs rather badly."

SOWETAN Criticizes Soweto City Council

In its page 6 editorial, Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 24 April discusses the stayaway called over evictions in Soweto and notes that Soweto City Council officials made no attempts to discuss the matter with residents of the township. Instead, they "let the rent boycott take its course through months of insecurity and wasted funds. They should in fact all be sacked for the mess. The present stayway from work has everything to do with this ineffectiveness and inefficiency."

CITY PRESS on Soweto Council's 'Display of Power'

In its page 2 editorial on the same subject, Johannesburg *City Press* in English on 26 April [date as published] points out that it has already "pleaded with the authorities" to tackle the rent boycott issue with care. "The response to this plea was a display of power by the Soweto City Council, which was accompanied by some very inciting statement by councillors. We have now seen the results. The price we have paid for all that kragdadigheid [show of force] is that the whole place came to a standstill this week."

26 Apr Press Review

MB260717 [Editorial Report]

STAR: Winning Battle for Free Speech

"Another round in the battle for free speech has been won," proclaims Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 25 April in a page 8 editorial. "...yesterday's Supreme Court judgment setting aside sweeping restrictions on media coverage of the emergency stands as a vital landmark upholding basic civil rights in a country where those rights have been savagely curtailed." Effectively, the judgment "means the security forces will again be more answerable for their actions than the invalid regulations intended them to be." "We would urge the Government to consider very carefully before seeking to reimpose curbs that open the way to serious abuses, cause major grievances in an already inflamed situation and bring the country's name into further disrepute. The time has surely some when the lifting of restrictions and the extension of civil and political rights have a much higher potential for promoting peace and order than do any more restrictive measures to suppress dissent."

Confrontation Brings Black Issues to Forefront

"Blacks may not have the vote on May 6, but they are making very sure white voters know blacks have opinions that cannot be ignored," observes John Patten in "The Independent" on the same page. "It is inconceivable that white voters will be able any longer to consider the main issue of the election — what to do about black political participation in national politics — as an abstract, theoretical, or time-divorced matter." "Black confrontation is designed to concentrate the white mind. The likely effect of that concentration, unfortunately, is a hardening of attitude against black activism, not a growing sympathy for black grievances." "None of these consequences will be regretted by the political groupings involved in organising the industrial and worker action. If anything, they will exult at the further polarisation that is occurring."

"The task of the Nationalist Government in Parliament from immediately after the elections will be to address this crisis directly and without self-delusion." "Swift action is needed for two reasons. First, it is essential to outflank the confrontationists by getting some constructive negotiation started. Second, it is essential that the Government show rapid progress in the direction to prepare for the tricameral elections in 1989." "An honest assessment of Government tactics in fighting this election must conclude that the Nationalists wrongly allowed the temptation of short-term advantage at the hustings to seduce it away from the vital course of reform. The Government and the country will live to rue that short-sighted strategy."

ZAMBIA

4 Reported Dead in RSA 'Commando Operation'

MB251200 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Four people [number as heard] were killed in a South African commando operation in the early hours in Livingstone this morning.

Announcing this today, Minister of National Guidance, Information and Broadcasting Services Comrade Milimo Punabantu, said those killed were [word indistinct] Zambian National Provident Fund [words indistinct] house and a man and a woman in Zambia [words indistinct] township. Another woman in the (?king) township was seriously injured and later rushed to hospital.

Comrade Punabantu said other people in the [words indistinct] a report but he disclosed that the South African commandos flew to Livingstone by helicopter shortly after 0300 this morning. They then rode on Honda motorcycles to the Zambian National Provident Fund building where [words indistinct] at two watchmen [words indistinct] instantly killing them both. He said they later went to [words indistinct] service township where they demolished the house using explosives. The man and the woman in the house were also killed and another was seriously injured.

Comrade Punabantu said Zambia condemns this act by racist South Africa and [words indistinct] in other unprovoked actsagainst Zambia. South Africa alleged that armed freedom fighters were amassing in Zambia and Tanzania to move into South Africa to disrupt the whites-only election there on May 6.

Victims Identified

MB251827 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] The minister of national guidance, information, and broadcasting services, Milimo Punabantu, has said there is no truth in South Africa's claim that the victims of the raid in Livingstone early today were members of the African National Congress. Comrade Punabantu gave the names of the victims as Isaac Chisamu and Mutema Muyeya, both watchmen at the Zambia National Provident Fund, and Jiros David and Sydney Mulobela of Dambwa township. The minister said the two watchmen were killed when South African commandos shot them in the chest while the two brothers were killed by fragments from the house the (?raiders) blew up with explosives. Comrade Punabantu said a woman, Pelekelo Kawina, was seriously wounded by the fragments and was admitted at [name indistinct] Hospital.

Witnesses Describe Attack

MB251428 Dakar PANA in English 1410 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Lusaka, 25 April (ZANA/PANA) - Four people were killed in a South African commando operation in the early hours of this morning in Livingstone, Minister of National Guidance, Information, and Broadcasting Services Milimo Punabantu has confirmed.

Punabantu said those killed were two watchmen at the Zambia National Provident Fund (ZNPF) Musi-o-tunya house and a man and woman in Dambwa site and service township.

Another woman in the same township was seriuosly injured and later rushed to the hospital. Punabantu said details of the raid were still being awaited but disclosed that the South African commandos flew into Livingstone shortly after 0300 hours this morning. They then rode on Honda motor cycles to the Zambia National Provident and Musi-o-tunya building.

There they shot at the two watchmen in the chest and legs instantly killing both.

They then rode to Dambwa where they demolished a house using explosives. A man and a woman in the house were killed while another woman was seriously wounded and taken to hospital.

Punabantu said Zambia condemns unreservedly this dastardly act by apartheid South Africa in which four innocent people were killed in yet another unrevoked act against Zambia.

The apartheid regime should not use Zambia as a scape-goat for the hell that is loosening up in South Africa, he said and noted that this wanton act comes in the wake of recent threats by South Africa against Zambia and Tanzania.

According to an eyewitness, Winfred Muliokela of the Zambia Information Services, the sound of gunfire was heard in the township at 03.15 hours this morning.

Muliokela reported hearing a continuous crackle of automatic fire for over an hour, he peeped through the window and saw the figures clad in military camouflage speaking in English just outside the attacked house.

When the firing petered out, it was followed by a loud blast which shattered the house completely breaking window panes of surrounding houses.

A Miss Margret Sibeso, 39, narrowly escaped death with her two and half year old daughter when the raiders blew part of her house in the same vicinity as the bombed house.

She said she was terrified and ran out of the house with her child to seek refuge in a neighbour's house. The scene of the attack was littered with hundreds of empty catridges and hand grenades.

A spokesman for the African National Congress (ANC) Tom Sebina said he was awaiting details of the attack when contacted for comment this morning.

The attack followed continued claims by South Africa that ANC cadres were gathering in Lusaka in preparation for infiltration in South Africa to disrupt the oncoming whites only elections. The latest claim was this week when the South African Foreign Affairs Department said in a telex to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lusaka that it had become clear that groups of ANC terrorists were gathering in Zambia and Tanzania with the intention of proceeding to the South African borders.

Punabantu dismissed the claim as totally false saying the racist regime was trying to justify its intended attack on Frontline States.

2 Whites Detained on Subversion Charges

MB261833 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] It had been announced in Livingstone that Zambian security forces have arrested two white men believed to be connected with subversive activities in the country. Defense Minister General Malimba Masheke said in Livingstone today that the two men were arrested yesterday. Gen Masheke pointed out, however, that the two were not directly connected with yesterday's South African commando raid in Livingstones Dambwa township.

The minister, who was in Livingstone to inspect the scene of yesterday's attack by South African soldiers, could however not give further details concerning the two men, because doing so, he said, would prejudice the investigation.

Kaunda Urges Stronger Security on Borders

MB241212 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] The president, Kenneth Kaunda, has called for an end to smuggling along Zambia's borders. Officially opening the eighth northwestern party conference in Solwezi today, the president noted that the country had lost many lives through smuggling activity. He said there was a lot of corruption going on at the borders and called for measures to ensure businessmen wanting to sell their commodities across the borders followed legal procedures. The president also directed district authorities who have markets at immigration and customs border posts to review the activities of such markets regularly.

Comrade Kaunda has meanwhile called for the strengthening of security committees and vigilante groups in border areas to check the activities of enemies who, among other things, are not happy with Zambia's commitment to the liberation struggle in the southern African region.

Cites Illegal Weapons

MB241841 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] President Kaunda has disclosed that security forces in the northwestern province have picked up 24 miliary weapons brought illegally into the country from a neighboring state. Comrade Kaunda made the disclosure when he officially opened the eighth northwestern province annual party conference at the Solwezi teachers' training college.

The president, who did not identify the country from which the weapons came, praised residents in the province for their maximum vigilance which resulted in the discovery of the weapons. He attributed the influx of illegal weapons into the country to the influx of persons from neighboring countries. President Kaunda told delegates that the information concerning the discoveries of the weapons was reported to him by the province's member of the Central Committee, Comrade Alexander Kamalondo.

Kaunda Says IMF Demands on Loans Excessive

MB240829 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 24 Apr 87

[Text] Reports from Washington say Zambia and the International Monetary Fund were locked in final crucial talks on the country's standby facility loans. The prime minister, Comrade Kebby Musokotwane, who also heads the finance portfolio, is representating Zambia at the talks. He had to cancel some scheduled assignments in the United States capital due to the pressing need to have the talks concluded. The prime minister was expected to leave for London, depending on the outcome of the talks, although more talks were planned if no breakthrough materialized.

Last night, the president, Comrade Kaunda, announced that he cancelled the 70 percent price increases on petroleum products announced by ZIMCO [Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation] Oil early this week because they ought to be analyzed properly after the prime minister's return from Washington. He said he was looking forward to an agreement being reached with the IMF since the situation had reached a critical stage with Zambia needing urgent assistance. He was speaking at State House when he met the vice chairman of Tata Export Comapny, Mr Sanil Gupta, who is also Zambia's consul general in Bombay.

The president pointed out that by demanding that Zambia pays back billions of dollar loans in 1 year, the IMF was asking too much of Zambia. Expressing dissatisfaction with the unfair trade between rich and poor nations, the president called for the further strengthening of South to South cooperation to check (?things).

Mr Gupta pledged his company's assistance to Zambia in several fields, including transport and agriculture.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Condemns SADF Operation in Zambia

MB261845 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 26 Apr 87

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has sent a message of solidarity to President Kaunda of Zambia on the death of four Zambian civilians murdered by South African commandos yesterday. In the message, the prime minister expresses profound sympathies and deepest sorrow over the murders of the Zambian nationals, callously committed by the apartheid regime's invaders in both unprovoked acts of aggression recently perpetrated against Zambia.

Comrade Mugabe said the invasion had proved recent frontline leaders' warnings that the bloodthirsty racist regime was planning an evil campaign in order to win a few more votes in the forthcoming racist and undemocratic election. The prime minister said the invasion is downright ritual murder, in which the lives and blood of our nationals, in addition to the hundreds of lives being lost in South Africa, are being sacrificed on an altar of apartheid as the purchase price of white votes.

Foreign Ministry Comments

MB251850 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] In Harare, a statement issued by the secretary for foreign affairs, Comrade Elleck Mashingaidze, on behalf of the acting minister, Comrade Simbarashe Mumbengegwi, has condemned the unprovoked and deliberate acts of military aggression perpetrated by South African troops on the defenseless inhabitants of Livingstone. The statement says: This latest example of external military adventurism by Pretoria illustrates once again the apartheid regime's contempt and disregard for the norms of international law and serves only to reinforce the need to isolate the barbaric regime from the civilized world. It called on the international community to condemn this brutal act.

SUNDAY MAIL Replaces Editor Over Cuba Story

MB221723 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Apr 87

[Text] Comrade (King Tikeshe) has been appointed acting editor of *The Sunday Mail*, replacing Comrade Henry Muradzikwa. The group managing director of Zimbabwe Newspapers, Comrade (Elias Rasike), announced the appointment today. This follows the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe's, severe criticism of *The Sunday Mail* which he described as reactionary, saying the government will not tolerate press irresponsibility. *The Sunday Mail* reported that 60 Zimbabwean students studying in Cuba were deported for unspecified health reasons. The article was denied by the Cuban and Zimbabwean Governments, but the editor later said that he stood by the story.